Chapter 7

PARKS, RECREATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

- PARK DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
- CULTURAL SERVICES
- SCHOOLS
- CHILD CARE
- LIBRARIES
- FIRE PROTECTION
- POLICE PROTECTION
- WATER SUPPLY
- WASTEWATER
- DRAINAGE
- INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
- ENERGY FACILITIES
- PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES

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Language identified with (LCP) is not restricted to the Coastal Zone; language which includes the (LCP) initials is part of the Local Coastal Program and applies countywide unless specifically stated that the policy, etc. is limited to the coastal zone.

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AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE

The Parks and Recreation and Public Facilities Element is an optional element under State Planning law which combines numerous topics all related to providing Community facilities to support existing and future populations. Policies and programs are derived from various source documents including adopted plans for parks and solid waste management and established ordinances and regulations. Table 7-1 indicates the wide variety of agencies, districts and service providers which provide for, manage and fund community facilities in Santa Cruz County.

The first part of the facilities element is closely linked to the Land Use Plan, where designations for parks and other facilities are noted directly on the General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Use Maps. The Urban and Rural Parks Master Plans and the Trails Master Plan, if and when such a plan is developed and adopted ,are to be consistent with the Parks and Recreation section policies. This element is intended to support the more detailed parks master plans and the land use plans for each planning area. The Schools section addresses both the educational and recreational uses of school facilities and includes the requirement of adequate school services for new development. The Child Care section addresses measures to alleviate critical shortages of child care facilities by conditioning approval of new development with its provision. The Libraries section deals with the siting of branch libraries throughout the County. The Fire and Police Protection sections deal with levels of service and facilities planning in the County.

The second portion of the facilities element is closely linked to the Conservation and Open Space Element, which addresses water quality and quantity issues, energy and other resource topics. The Fire Protection section addresses fire station siting and development review process to ensure adequate fire protection in terms of response time, adequate roads, and adequate water availability. The section on Water includes policies requiring commitments from water districts for adequate services for new development, and contains programs for working with water purveyors to achieve consistent conservation and water use policies. The Sanitation section includes policies relating to sewers, community package plants, and septic systems and includes some Energy policies. The Drainage section includes policies regarding facilities for flood control, surface water quality and coastal wetlands enhancement. The Integrated Waste Management section includes reclamation and recycling policies from the Source Reduction and Recycling Element and the Santa Cruz County Hazardous Waste Management Plan. The Energy Distribution section includes policies regarding overhead transmission lines and the undergrounding of local distribution systems. The Public Services Phasing section addresses the issue of providing essential services to County residents without promoting undesirable growth in rural areas.

Figure 7-1
Overview of Public Service Providers to Unincorporated Santa Cruz County

Public Service/ Agency or District	County Area Served	Governance	Service Type
FIRE PROTECTION			
Aptos/La Selva Fire Protection District	Aptos/La Selva Beach	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Aromas Tri-County Fire Protection District	Aromas Area	Independent Board	Rural
Ben Lomond Fire Protection District	San Lorenzo Valley area (portion)	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Boulder Creek Fire Protection District	Boulder Creek, Brookdale	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Branciforte Fire Protection District	Branciforte, Happy Valley area	Independent Board	Rural
Central Fire Protection District	Capitola,Live Oak, and Soquel	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Felton Fire Protection District	Felton area	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Freedom Fire Protection District	Freedom area	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Salsipuedes Fire Protection District	Salsipuedes area	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Scotts Valley Fire Protection District	Scotts Valley area	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Zayante Fire Protection District	San Lorenzo Valley area (portion)	Independent Board	Rural
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	Unincorporated County (except other districts)	State of California	Rural
County of Santa Cruz	County of Santa Cruz	County Board of Sup.	Urban/Rural
City of Santa Cruz	City of Santa Cruz	City Council	Urban
City of Watsonville	City of Watsonville	City Council	Urban
PARKS AND RECREATION			
Parks and Rec CSA #11	Unincorporated County	County Board of Sup.	Urban/Rural
Santa Cruz County Parks Dept	Unincorporated County	County Board of Sup.	Urban/Rural
Opal Cliffs Recreation and Park District	Opal Cliffs area	Independent Board	Urban
La Selva Recreation and Park District	La Selva Beach area	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Alba Recreation and Park District	Alba Road Area	Independent Board	Rural
Boulder Creek Rec. and Park District	San Lorenzo Valley	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
SCHOOLS			
Bonny Doon School District	Unincorporated County	Independent Board	Rural
Happy Valley Elementary School District	Unincorporated County	Independent Board	Rural
Lakeside Elementary School District	Unincorporated County	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Live Oak Elementary School District	Live Oak	Independent Board	Urban
Loma Prieta Joint Union School District	Unincorporated County	Independent Board	Rural
Pacific Elementary School District	Unincorporated County	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Pajaro Valley Unified School District	Pajaro Valley	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Mountain Elementary School District	Unincorporated County	Independent Board	Rural
San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District	San Lorenzo Valley	Independent Board	Rural
Santa Cruz Elementary School District	City of Santa Cruz, Live Oak,	Independent Board	Urban
Santa Cruz High School District	City of Santa Cruz, Live Oak, Soquel	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Scotts Valley Unified Elem. School Dist.	Scotts Valley, Carbonera	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Soquel Unified Elementary School District	Soquel, Live Oak	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Cabrillo Community College District	Countywide	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
West Valley Community College District	Countywide	Independent Board.	Urban/Rural
LIBRARIES			
Santa Cruz Library District	Countywide (except Watsonville)	County Board of Sup.	Urban/Rural
OTHER			
SC Co. Resource Conservation District	Countywide	County Board Of Sup.	Urban/Rural
SC Co. Port District	Port	Independent Board	Urban
SC Co. Metropolitan Transit District	Countywide	Independent Board	Urban/Rural

Figure 7-1 (Continued)
Overview of Public Service Providers
to Unincorporated Santa Cruz County

Public Service/ Agency or District	County Area Served	Governance	Service Type
WATER			
Central Water District	Portion of Aptos Area	Independent Board	Rural
Davenport County Sanitation District	Davenport	County Board of Sup.	Urban
San Lorenzo Valley Water District	San Lorenzo Valley	Independent Board	Rural
Scotts Valley Water District	Scotts Valley, Carbonera	Independent Board	Urban
Soquel Creek Water District	Soquel, Live Oak, Aptos, Capitola	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
Watsonville Water District	City of Watsonville	City Council	Urban/Rural
Santa Cruz City Water Department	City of Santa Cruz, Live Oak	City Council	Urban/Rural
Lompico County Water District	Lompico	Independent Board	Rural
Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency	Pajaro Basin (groundwater management)	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
SEWER			
Freedom County Sanitation District	Freedom Area	Independent Board	Urban
Salsipuedes County Sanitation District	Portions of Pajaro Valley	Independent Board.	Urban
Santa Cruz County Sanitation District	Aptos, Calitola, Live Oak & Soquel	BOS/CC Ex Officio	Urban
City of Santa Cruz (treatment plant)	City of Santa Cruz	County Board of Sup.	Urban
City of Scotts Valley	City of Scotts Valley	County Board of Sup.	Urban
City of Watsonville (treatment plant)	City of Watsonville	County Board of Sup.	Urban
Rolling Woods CSA #10 (package sewer).	Rolling Woods Subdivision	County Board of Sup.	Urban
Trestle Beach CSA #20 (package sewer)	Trestle Beach Subdivision	County Board of Sup.	Urban
Septic Tank Maint. CSA #12	Unincorporated Cnty,outside	County Board of Sup.	Rural
Davenport County Sanitation District	Dist. Unincorporated County	County Board of Sup.	Urban
DRAINAGE			
Flood Control & Water Conservation Zone 5	Live Oak, Capitola, Soquel	County Board of Sup.	Urban
Flood Control & Water Conservation Zone 6	Aptos	County Board of Sup.	Urban
Flood Control & Water Conservation Zone 8	San Lorenzo Valley	County Board of Sup.	Urban/Rural
Pajaro Storm Drain Maintenance District	Pajaro Valley	Independent Board	Urban/Rural
ROADS			
Aptos Seascape CSA #3	Aptos	County Board of Sup.	Urban
County Public Works Dept.	Unincorporated County	County Board of Sup.	Urban/Rural
Soquel/Live Oak RDA.	Soquel/Live Oak	County Board of Sup.	Urban
CSA #9 Zone A-street lighting	Unincorporated County	County Board of Sup	Urban/Rural
POLICE PROTECTION			
County Sheriff's Department	Unincorporated County	County Board of Sup.	Urban/Rural
SOLID WASTE			
CSA #9 Zone C-Landfill	Unincorporated Cnty & Scotts Valley	County Board of Sup.	Urban/Rural

GOALS

The following broad goals guide this element:

- **Public Service Adequacy (LCP):** To provide for the health, safety, and welfare of County residents through the provision of adequate community services and infrastructure to support the existing and planned levels of development in the County, in a manner which is supportable within the limits of the County's finite natural resources and within the constraints of community-wide goals for environmental quality.
- **Public Service Phasing (LCP):** To coordinate the intensity, location, amount and timing of future development in the County with the provision of necessary public services., and to encourage new development to locate in urbanized areas where public services are available or can most readily and efficiently be provided or improved, and to achieve a rate of residential development in the County which can be accommodated by existing public services and facilities and their orderly and reasonable expansion, while maintaining high economic, social, and environmental quality.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The Urban and Rural Parks Master Plans and the Trails Master Plan, if and when such a plan is developed and adopted, are to be consistent with the Parks and Recreation section policies.

The Park Development policies address the provision of adequate park facilities, their funding, sharing with other jurisdictions, and adequate access. Programs call for the commitment of adequate personnel and funding, site identification, the setting of development priorities, and the continued use of the Park Dedication/In-Lieu Fees ordinance. The continued utilization of private park facilities is also recognized as providing important recreation opportunities for some communities.

The Neighborhood Parks policies set up standards for neighborhood parks and various acquisition methods. The programs detail the establishment of neighborhood park sites to serve the urbanized areas within the Urban Services Line.

The Community Parks policies set standards for the location of, and facilities to be included in, community parks. The programs call for the establishment of community center/ park facilities to serve the urban planning areas.

The Rural Parks policies set standards for development of local rural parks and recreational facilities to serve the unincorporated rural areas of the County. The programs call for the establishment of local rural park facilities to serve the rural planning areas.

The Regional Park policies address the selection and preservation of a countywide system of regional parks, including the County's beaches, based on unique resource opportunities and a variety of recreation environments. The programs address existing and proposed facilities by planning area.

The Trails and Recreation Corridors policies call for the establishment of a system of hiking, bicycling and equestrian trails providing access to and connecting the various parks, riparian corridors, and beaches in the County. The trail corridors are intended to be implemented through the use of publicly-owned lands, easements, and dedications.

The Coastal Recreation policies cover the protection of coastal access, views, and recreational land uses along the 42 miles of Santa Cruz County coastline. Programs include improving vehicular and pedestrian access to beach areas and the expanding Coastal Recreation through policies of the General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Use Plan.

The State Parks section policies and programs cover specific improvements to the County's state parks, listed by planning area.

The Organized Camps and Conference Centers policies encourage the use of these recreational and educational facilities to preserve rural open space and set density and development standards for them. Policy implementation is through Zoning ordinance requirements for a Development Permit and Master Development Plan for such facilities.

The Commercial Recreation policies cover such facilities as golf courses, stables, swimming pools, tennis courts, camping and picnicking areas, and outdoor entertainment parks. Intensity of use standards are called for and Development Permit procedures are to be used to implement the policies and standards.

Figure 7-2 is a listing of all existing and proposed local public parks including the type of park, its status and size and which planning area it is located.

Figure 7-2
Santa Cruz County Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

Planning Area	Park Site	APN	Park Type	Status	Gross Acreage*	
					Existing	Proposed
APTOS	Aptos Jr. High School	041-221-01	N	E/S	4.0	
	Aptos Village Park	039-241-02 041-042-17 039-311-56	N/C	E	12.5	
	Beaches		R	B		
	Jennifer/Haas Drives	040-081-06	N	P		6.0
	Hidden Beach	043-131-39,-40,-41,-34 054-191-31,-57	N	E/P	6.1	5.5
	Mar Vista Elementary School/Park	039-181-15 039-191-65	N N	E/S E	5.0 1.8	
	McGregor/Sea Ridge Drives	038-081-36	C	P		3.0
	Rio Del Mar Elementary School	053-011-11	N	E/S	5.0	
	Polo Grounds	041-201-04	N/C/R	A	61.5	
	Porter Sesnon	038-051-03 038-041-04	C	P		15.0
	Seascape Benchlands	054-261-10,-21	N	E	10.1	
	Valencia Elementary School	041-061-01,-02	N	E/S	3.5	
APTOS HILLS	Aptos High School	041-291-37 041-281-46	L	E/S	6.0	
	Freedom Boulevard	041-291-39	L	P		6.0
	Freedom Lake	049-071-23,-39	L/R	E	34.0	
	Scott Park	049-051-08,-09,-20	L	E	4.2	
	Valencia Hall	105-171-05 105-211-06	L	E/H	1.4	
BONNY DOON	Beaches		R	B		
	Bonny Doon Area	site to be determined	L	P		5.0
	Bonny Doon Elementary School	080-352-01,-02	L	E/S	3.0	
CARBONERA	Graham Hill Showgrounds	061-321-39	R	P		14.8
	M. Grey Memorial Field	061-371-16	L	E	3.0	

Key

Park Type
- C – Community
- L – Local Rural
- N- Neighborhood
- R- Regional

Status
- A- Land Acquired
- B – Public & Private Beaches
- C- City Facility
- E- Existing Developed Facility
- H-Historic Facility
- P – Proposed Acquisition
- RD – Recreation District Facility
- S- School Facility

The acreages associated with school sites are expressed in net usable acreage. All other acreage is expressed in gross acres.

Figure 7-2
Santa Cruz County Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

Planning Area	Park Site	APN	Park Type	Status	Gross Acreage*	
					Existing	Proposed
	Happy Valley Elementary School	101-161-12	L	E/S	3.0	
	Brook Knoll Elementary School	067-351-14	N	E/S	4.5	
EUREKA CANYON	Aldridge Lane Park	108-071-26, 108-081-24	L	E	2.9	
	Bert Scott Estate	108-161-04,-05	L	A	31.5	
	Bradley Elementary School	108-171-07	L	E/S	4.0	
	Corralitos Community Center	107-211-10	L	E/C	5.0	
	Grizzly Flat Reservoir	106-111-01,-02	R	P/C		N/A
LA SELVA BEACH	Arbolado Drive Linear Park	045-163-02; 045-121-24; 045-122-01;045-123-19	L	E/RD	1.4	
	Beaches		R	B		
	La Selva Community Center	045-171-30	L	E/RD	1.0	
	Place de Me	046-212-33,-40	L	A	2.7	
	Playa Boulevard	045-182-01	L	E/RD	0.3	
	Vista Drive Overlook/Bluffs	045-195-13; 045-201-11	L	E/P/RD	0.3	6.3
LIVE OAK	Beaches		R	B		
	Brommer Maintenance Yard	029-213-19	C	P		8.3
	Brommer Park	031-091-25	N	E	7.5	
	Cabrillo Avenue	102-121-64	N	P		4.0
	Chaminade Uplands	102-061-08	C	P		74.5
	Chanticleer	029-071-08,-22,-23,-38	N	P		5.5
	Coastview Drive - Parking	028-173-05,-07,-08 028-174-02	R	P		1.3
	Coffee Lane	031-031-54,-09,-15,-32	N	E/P	2.5	2.7
	Corcoran Beach	028-225-11,-12 028-231-01	R	E/P/B	2.4	4.7

Key

Park Type
- C – Community
- L – Local Rural
- N- Neighborhood
- R- Regional

Status
- A- Land Acquired
- B – Public & Private Beaches
- C- City Facility
- E- Existing Developed Facility
- H-Historic Facility
- P – Proposed Acquisition
- RD – Recreation District Facility
- S- School Facility

The acreages associated with school sites are expressed in net usable acreage. All other acreage is expressed in gross acres.

Figure 7-2
Santa Cruz County Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

Planning Area	Park Site	APN	Park Type	Status	Gross Acreage*	
					Existing	Proposed
LIVE OAK	Del Mar School	028-041-13,-14,-36,-39 028-052-60; 028-053-60	N	E/S	6.0	
	East Cliff Drive/37th Avenue Overlook	032-251-02,-06,-07,-10	R	P		1.5
	East Cliff Drive/Moran Lake	028-302-04	N	P		0.8
	Eddy Lane	026-181-36; 026-173-06	N	A	5.3	
	Felt Street	028-041-01,-02,-03	N	A/P	1.8	1.0
	Floral Park	032-091-53	N	E	0.9	
	Good Shepherd School	025-191-07	N	E/S	4.0	
	Green Acres Elementary School	026-062-46,-51,-61,87	N	E/S	4.5	
	Harbor High School	009-291-44	C	E/S	6.0	
	Harper Street (West)	026-201-04,-05,-06,-07	N	A/P	0.6	3.4
	Harper Street (East)	029-171-04,-05,-06,-09 029-201-04	N	P		8.1
	Johan's Beach	028-212-13	R	P/B		3.9
	Katherine Lane	102-362-10; 102-361-18,-28	N	E/P	1.8	0.3
	Live Oak Elementary School	029-131-02,-41,-42,-44	N	E/P/S	3.5	0.5
	Lode Street	028-202-18	N	P		2.1
	Mattison Lane	029-061-06,-12,-19,-20,-21 029-121-01	N	P		8.8
	Moran Lake and Beach	028-281-31,-32,-37,-23 028-291-49	N/R	E/P/B	9.0	0.3
	Opal Cliffs Coastal Access	033-151-12	R	E	0.3	
	Pinewood	026-111-03,-04,-07,-39,-40 026-121-13,-14,-15,-78	N	A/P	0.1	3.5
	Pleasure Point Overlook	032-242-10	R	P		0.2
	Portola Drive/Rodeo Gulch	028-091-24,-25; 028-361-29	N	A/P	3.5	2.0
	Santa Cruz Gardens Elementary School	102-121-33,-35	N	E/S	7.5	

Key

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Status
A- Land Acquired
B – Public & Private Beaches
C- City Facility
E- Existing Developed Facility
H-Historic Facility
P – Proposed Acquisition
RD – Recreation District Facility
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The acreages associated with school sites are expressed in net usable acreage. All other acreage is expressed in gross acres.

Figure 7-2
Santa Cruz County Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

Planning Area	Park Site	APN	Park Type	Status	Gross Acreage*	
					Existing	Proposed
LIVE OAK	Shoreline Middle School	027-251-16,-17; 027-241-07	N	A/S	5.0	
	Twin Hills	025-041-23; 025-271-26,-39	N	P		1.0
	Twin Lakes Park	027-051-09,-22,-23,-24,-25,-29	N	E/P	1.4	5.7
	Winkle Farm Park	025-091-01,-51,-52	N	E	6.4	
	7th Avenue and Brommer Street	026-261-06,-08,-13,-15	C	P		9.6
	17th Avenue Swim Center	027-251-12,-13,-18; 027-241-06	C	A	9.5	
	41st Avenue/East Cliff Drive Parking	032-181-04	R	P		0.6
NORTH COAST	Beaches		R	B		
	Davenport Beach and Bluff	058-072-01,-02,-03; 058-121-03	R	P		N/A
	Greyhound Rock	057-1131-11	R	B	70.0	
	Pacific Elementary School	058-082-01	L	E/S	1.0	
	Scott Creek Bluff and Beaches	057-151-08,-09	R	E	35.9	
PAJARO VALLEY	Amesti Elementary School	050-241-15,-16	L	E/S	6.0	
	Calabasas Elementary School	049-181-20	N	E/S	4.0	
	College Lake		R	P		N/A
	East Lake Elementary School	051-191-33	N	P/S		5.0
	East Lake Jr. High School	051-501-07,-08	L	A/P/S		6.0
	Freedom Elementary School	047-042-14	N	E/S	6.0	
	Mesa Village Park	051532-25	N	E	2.1	
	Pinto Lake City Park	050-151-11,-07	L/R	E/C	65.0	
	Pinto Lake County Park	050-141-02,-11,-12	L/R	E	183.0	
	Salsipuedes Elementary School	051-042-05	L	E/S	2.0	
SALSIPUEDES	Pescadero Creek Reservoir		R	P		N/A
SAN ANDREAS	Beaches		R	B		

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Status
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- E- Existing Developed Facility
- H-Historic Facility
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Figure 7-2
Santa Cruz County Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

Planning Area	Park Site	APN	Park Type	Status	Gross Acreage*	
					Existing	Proposed
SAN LORENZO VALLEY	Alba School	078-011-05	L	E/H/RD	0.5	
	Ben Lomond Dam Park	077-141-12,-13,-16,-17 077-151-08,-18,-21	L	E/P/H	5.2	1.1
	Boulder Creek Junction	081-141-05; 081-133-01	L	E/RD	0.9	
	Boulder Creek Elementary School	081-121-05,-06; 081-165-01 081-163-05	L	E/S	2.5	
	Brookdale	079-101-01,-03,-16,-17	L	P/RD		6.4
	Felton Covered Bridge and Park	065-091-04	L	E/H	6.3	
	Highlands Park	072-061-08,-09,-16,-19	L	E/P/H	25.3	6.4
	Garrahan Memorial Park	084-035-06,-07	L	E/RD	1.2	
	Loch Lomond Reservoir		R	E/C	N/A	
	Lompico Community Center and Park	075-101-11; 075-121-04,-05,-06,-07,-08	L	P		1.6
	Quail Hollow Elementary School	077-192-39,-40	L	E/S	4.5	
	Quail Hollow Ranch	074-171-01,-02,-09,-10,-11,-12,-13,-14,-15 073-011-03,-04,-07,-08,-09	L/R	A/E/H	284.6	
	Redwood Elementary School	085-092-02,-06; 085-281-01,-36	L	E/S	8.0	
	San Lorenzo Valley Elementary, Junior High and senior High Schools	071-151-24,-25	L	E/S	4.0	
SKYLINE	Glenwood Area	(site to be determined)	L	P		N/A
SOQUEL	Cunnison Lane	037-101-08,-13	N/C	A	5.0	
	Maplethorpe Lane	037-311-41	N	E	0.5	
	O'Neill Ranch	030-011-24,-41	N/C/R	A	83.0	
	Soquel Elementary School	030-153-21	N/C	E/S	4.0	
	Soquel High School	030-011-25	C	E/S	10.0	
	Soquel Lions Park	030-231-55	N	E	0.2	

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Figure 7-2
Santa Cruz County Public Parks and Recreation Facilities

Planning Area	Park Site	APN	Park Type	Status	Gross Acreage*	
					Existing	Proposed
	Willowbrook Park	037-241-42,-44,-45	N	E	2.8	
	North Main Street Elementary School	030-041-02,-04,-13,-30,-32,-33	N	E/S	5.0	
SUMMIT	Loma Prieta Community Center/ English School	096-151-25	L	E/S	5.0	
	Glenwood Reservoir		R	P		N/A
	Mountain School	103-151-24	L	E/S	3.0	
	Soquel Reservoir		R	P		N/A

Key

Park Type	Status	
C – Community	A- Land Acquired	H-Historic Facility
L – Local Rural	B – Public & Private Beaches	P – Proposed Acquisition
N- Neighborhood	C- City Facility	RD – Recreation District Facility
R- Regional	E- Existing Developed Facility	S- School Facility

The acreages associated with school sites are expressed in net usable acreage. All other acreage is expressed in gross acres.

PARK DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Objective 7.1a Parks and Recreation Opportunities

(LCP) To provide a full range of public and private opportunities for the access to, and enjoyment of, park, recreation, and scenic areas, including the use of active recreation areas and passive natural open spaces by all ages, income groups and people with disabilities with the primary emphasis on needed recreation facilities and programs for the citizens of Santa Cruz County.

Objective 7.1b Park Distribution

(LCP) To establish and maintain, within the economic capabilities of the County, a geographical distribution of neighborhood, community, rural, and regional park and recreational facilities throughout the County based on the standards for acreage and population ratios contained in this plan (see Figure 7-3); and to preserve unique features of the natural landscape for public use and enjoyment.

Policies

7.1.1 Existing Park, Recreation and Open Space Designation (O-R)

(LCP) Designate on the General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Uses and Facilities Maps those areas existing as, or suitable for, Parks, Recreation and Open Space uses.

7.1.2 Proposed Park Overlay Designation

(LCP) Designate specific parcels proposed to be acquired in whole or part for future public park sites on the General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Use Maps for each Planning Area.

7.1.3 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Uses

(LCP) Allow low intensity uses which are compatible with the scenic values and natural setting of the county for open space lands which are not developable; and allow commercial recreation, County, State and Federal parks, preserves, and biotic research stations, local parks and passive open space uses for park lands which are developable.

7.1.4 Local Recreation Opportunities

Provide a variety of local recreational facilities which serve all segments of the population based on the standards of the National Recreation and Parks Association, with priority given to facilities which can be utilized for youth recreation programs.

7.1.5 Access to Recreation Facilities

Provide physical access to all recreation facilities through provision of public transportation, trail system development, protection of prescriptive rights to beach access trails, and recreation programs.

7.1.6 Americans With Disabilities Act

Actively acknowledge and endorse the requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act and plan parks and other recreation facilities accordingly to encourage people with disabilities to mainstream into parks programs.

7.1.7 Park Financing

Include park site acquisition and development in the Capital Improvements Program (see section 7.27). Finance park site acquisition where possible through park dedications or fees, County Service Area and recreation district funds, state, federal and private foundation grants, and private donations to relieve the burden on the County General Fund. Where appropriate, use private concessionaires at County facilities to offset maintenance costs.

7.1.8 Sharing Parks and Recreation Facilities

Recognize the use of existing recreational facilities owned and/or operated by other agencies including the cities, recreation districts and the school districts as serving the recreational needs of the community and partially meeting standards for community parks acreage. Cooperate in funding and sharing recreation facilities, and seek to maximize the availability of all such facilities for general public use commensurate with the needs and priorities of the other agencies through joint powers agreements addressing development, maintenance and operating programs, as allowed by budget constraints.

7.1.9 Priorities for Park Development

Acquire and develop County parks according to the following priorities:

(1) Those proposed parks which lie in that portion of the unincorporated area of the County which is outside the established sphere of influence of any incorporated city shall be acquired and/or developed as a first priority.

(2) Those proposed parks which lie in the unincorporated area of the County, but are within the sphere of influence of an incorporated city shall be acquired and/or developed as a second priority.

(3) The County will cooperate, by providing advice and technical assistance to the degree possible, with independent recreation and park districts in their efforts to acquire and/or develop parks in the unincorporated areas of the County, within the boundaries of the special districts, as a third priority.

(4) Within the priority system established above it is the stated goal of the County of Santa Cruz to cooperate and coordinate with area school districts to the maximum degree possible, in acquiring and/or developing new, joint school/park facilities, where sufficient property is available for both purposes.

Figure 7-3
Park Acreage Needed at General Plan Buildout*

Planning Area	Population at Buildout	Neighborhood	Community	Rural	Total Acres
Aptos	20,500	62	41-62		103-124
Aptos Hills	6,550			33-39	33-39
Bonny Doon	4,200			21-25	21-25
Carbonera	11,150	12	8-12	36-43	56-67
Eureka Canyon	6,300			32-38	32-38
La Selva	4,150			21-25	21-25
Live Oak	29,850	90	60-90		150-180
North Coast	1,350			7-8	7-8
Pajaro Valley	21,300	51	34-51	22-27	107-129
Salsipuedes	2,700			14-16	14-16
San Andreas	3,100			16-19	16-19
San Lorenzo Valley	28,000			140-168	140-168
Skyline	4,200			21-25	21-25
Soquel	11,850	36	24-36		60-72
Summit	6,800			34-41	34-41
Total	**162,000**	**251**	**167-251**	**397-474**	**815-976**

* The park acreage needed is intended to show the total net usable park acreage required at buildout to meet General Plan Park Standards of:
Neighborhood Park Land = 3 acres per 1,000 population
Community Park Land = 2 to 3 acres per 1,000 population
Local Rural Park Land = 5 to 6 acres per 1,000 population

7.1.10 Design Criteria

(LCP) Require all recreation and visitor-serving developments to be consistent with the Zoning ordinance.

7.1.11 Private Local Parks

Encourage continued use of private recreation facilities that have traditionally served local communities, such as:

- Arroyo Verde
- Boulder Creek Country Club
- Brookdale Club
- Evergreen Estates
- Drew Lake
- Forest Lakes
- La Selva Beach Improvement Assoc.
- Las Cumbres
- Los Barrancos
- Mission Springs
- Mt. Hermon
- Pajaro Dunes North
- Pajaro Dunes South
- Paradise Park
- Seascape Greens

Programs

a. Commit adequate resources (funds and personnel) to the Parks and Recreation Program and allocate a greater proportion of the recreation budget for neighborhood, rural and community parks and programs, rather than for the proposed regional parks, as the most pressing recreation needed in Santa Cruz County. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

b. Proceed with a complete budget for each of the neighborhood, rural and community recreation sites so that adequate funds are available for land acquisition, site design, construction and maintenance. (Responsibility: County Parks, Planning Commission, County Administrative Office, Board of Supervisors)

c. Seek assistance from tax exempt foundations and corporations, businesses, and community and civic groups in the County's efforts to provide, maintain and operate parks. (Responsibility: County Parks)

(LCP) d. Maintain an ordinance requiring countywide park dedication and/or in-lieu fees in connection with residential development, including provisions for a yearly review and update of fees and/or annual increases keyed to inflation rates.
(Responsibility: County Parks, Parks Commission, Board of Supervisors)

e. Establish a priority list by park type (i.e., neighborhood, rural, community, regional), for each planning area, for park site acquisitions and allocation of funds in order to develop a distribution of park facilities. Ensure public participation in the development and adoption of the priority list, including consultation on park locations, facility, type of park use, and other community concerns. Update the list as needed with public participation.
(Responsibility: County Parks, Parks Commission, Board of Supervisors)

f. Update the County Parks Master Plan to identify adequate park land in each planning area to meet the General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan standards for park acreage, and to identify specific park sites for planning, budgeting, and acquisition purposes, in consultation with residents of each affected community and/or neighborhood. (Responsibility: County Parks, Planning Department, Parks Commission)

g. Plan for acquisition of regional parks to ensure protection of the identified sites, as most of these areas will provide valuable recreation opportunities in their undeveloped condition (Responsibility: County Parks, Board of Supervisors)

h. When a specific proposal is pending, maintain the procedure described herein by which property owners shall be compensated for not being able to develop land which is designated for park acquisition while the County secures acquisition funds. After submission of an application for one or more of the following permits or approvals, where the application is referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review, the County would have one year to decide whether acquisition for the park site is to proceed:

1. a Building Permit for a new single family dwelling or a new second unit;
2. a Coastal Development Permit for a new single family dwelling or a new second unit;
3. a Land Division Permit;
4. a Commercial Development Permit;
5. a Policy Amendment; or
6. any other Development Permit processed at Level V or greater.

If the County decides to acquire the parcel, the County shall make payment for such acquisition within an additional two years and shall enter into a lease agreement with the landowner in the interim. If the County decides not to acquire the property, the owner may proceed with development consistent with surrounding densities and land uses as indicated by the General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Use Element. In connection with the residential development of designated park sites, the Board of Supervisors should provide for appropriate areas for park development on the parcel, or obtain concurrent designation of an appropriate alternative park site. The parks designation process shall not apply to any application submitted before the effective date of the General Plan. (Responsibility: County Parks, Planning Department, Board of Supervisors) *(Revised by Res.328-2004)*

(LCP) i. Establish and fund a park lease/option fund that would be available during any fiscal year to compensate owners and secure acquisition rights to park sites upon which development proposals are pending. (Responsibility: County Parks, Board of Supervisors)

j. Maintain a process to require review and comment by the Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services (County Parks) staff of applications for the following permits or approvals, which are either on proposed park sites or adjacent existing park sites or trails:

1. a Building Permit for a new single family dwelling or a second unit;
2. a Coastal Development Permit for a new single family dwelling or a new second unit;
3. a Land Division Permit;
4. a Commercial Development Permit;
5. a Policy Amendment; or
6. any other Development Permit processed at Level V or greater.

Those permit applications that trigger a park site acquisition review shall be reviewed by the Parks Commission. *(Revised by Res. 328-2004)*

k. Implement Urban and Rural Parks Master Plans which specify whether all or a portion of designated parcels are proposed for purchase; and, which outlines acres planned, acres acquired, acres developed and cost estimates for each park site in the County. (Responsibility: County Park, Parks Commission, Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) l. Continue participation in joint powers agreements between state/County/incorporated cities/recreation districts/school districts and private recreational facilities to optimize recreational opportunities for all County residents. (Responsibility: County Parks, Parks Commission, Planning Department, Board of Supervisors)

m. Maintain a parks planning process for the development of specific park sites. A key feature of this process should be early consultation between Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services (County Parks) staff, Planning staff and other agencies charged with reviewing development proposals to identify development requirements, resources and constraints which may affect park design and construction. (Responsibility: County Parks, Planning Department, Public Works, Redevelopment Agency)

n. Examine the current Park Dedication ordinance to determine if new development is paying its fair share for new parks. If this examination shows that the in-lieu fees are inadequate, the ordinance should be amended to increase the amount of in-lieu fees according to that which can be legally substantiated. (Responsibility: Planning Department, County Parks, County Administrative Office)

Objective 7.2 Neighborhood Parks

(LCP) To provide neighborhood parks, at a standard of 3 net usable acres per 1000 population, consisting of conveniently located, easily accessible parks serving local residential neighborhoods in the urban portion of the County.

Policies

7.2.1 Neighborhood Park Standards

(LCP) Locate neighborhood parks based on the general standard that most urban residences should be within one-half mile of a neighborhood park serving a population of 1500 to 2000 people. An area of 4-6 acres is considered adequate for a neighborhood park; or when combined with school grounds, 2-3 acres would be sufficient. It should be recognized that park acreage standards are set as long-term goals rather than set objectives to be met. Facilities need not be elaborate and should include children's play equipment, play lots, paved game areas, free play fields, and areas for passive recreation and restroom facilities. Designate specific sites for neighborhood parks throughout the urban portion of the County on the General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Use Maps.

7.2.2 Mini-Park Sites

Consider the development of mini-park sites as an alternative to meet minimum park acreage requirements in the event that designated neighborhood park sites cannot be acquired.

7.2.3 Neighborhood Park Siting Criteria

Provide neighborhood park and playground facilities developed, where possible, in conjunction with residential development or as improvements to school grounds. Criteria for selection should include available vacant land, degree of development pressures in the area, size, density of residential development (current and future), access, and potential for suitable park facilities. Other factors include attractive natural open space features (e.g., streams, natural arroyos), the relationship of sites to proposed trail corridors, and the proximity of other public parks and private recreation facilities open to the public which serve the same neighborhood park needs.

7.2.5 Beaches in Neighborhoods

(LCP) Support the continued availability and use of beach areas to serve as a neighborhood recreational outlet for County residents, but do not credit beach areas towards satisfying neighborhood park acreage goals due to the seasonal availability of the resource, and the extensive regional demands placed on this limited coastal area.

Program

a. Establish neighborhood park sites as listed in Figure 7-2 assigning the highest priority to parks where critical needs exist and development pressures threaten the availability of park sites. (Responsibility: County Parks, Parks Commission, Planning Department, Planning Commission, Redevelopment Agency, Board of Supervisors, Recreation Districts)

Live Oak:

Lode Street: Develop a neighborhood park facility on excess land on the northwest portion of the Sanitation District property at Lode Street if safe public use can be accommodated adjacent to the sewer pumping plant.

Portola Drive/Rodeo Gulch: Develop a neighborhood park on Portola Drive adjacent to Rodeo Gulch utilizing excess public right of way and including the acquisition of designated adjacent properties.

Twin Hills: Include a small neighborhood park facility in the final phase of the Santa Cruz Gardens Subdivisions at Twin Hills located in conjunction with the open space protection areas and to provide public access to the scenic vistas, and appropriate scaled neighborhood recreational opportunities.

Soquel:

Soquel Elementary School: Maintain the existing neighborhood park facilities available at Soquel Elementary School if the school use is terminated, and consider establishment of an expanded community center and recreation facility with any proposed reuse of the site.

Objective 7.3 Community Parks and Recreation Facilities

(LCP) To provide community recreation facilities as a standard of 2-3 net usable acres per 1,000 population, including parks, cultural centers, and community complexes, in central locations in the urban areas which will serve as focuses for community social, organizational, cultural and/or recreational activities.

Policies

7.3.1 Community Park Standards

(LCP) Locate community parks using a general distribution standard of one park for every 10,000 people located within 3-5 miles or fifteen minutes of most urban concentrations and consisting of 10-25 acres of land. It should be recognized that park acreage standards are set as long-term goals rather than set objectives. Facilities could include a swimming pool, gymnasium, paved game courts, playfields, picnicking and equestrian areas, restrooms, a building for community meetings and recreational programs, and neighborhood-serving facilities where appropriate.

7.3.2 Priority for Mid-County Community Park

Assign highest priority to the acquisition and development of a mid-county community park for local residents, including a large athletic complex. Recognize that acquisition of large acreage sites will be difficult in the Live Oak area. Community park needs may have to be addressed by the acquisition and development of a number of smaller community parks or cooperative development of interjurisdictional facilities.

7.3.3 Community Park Siting Criteria

(LCP) Select community park sites based on the following criteria: accessibility, land availability, geographic relationship to the particular community, attractive natural features on the site, ease of development, and association with existing or proposed roads or trails and other city or state parks, and/or open space and beaches.

7.3.4 Establishing Community Centers

Establish community centers, to include facilities for meeting halls, craft centers, day care centers, recreation facilities, and educational and cultural programs, as a small scale alternative to the community complex.

Program

a. Establish community parks and recreation facilities as listed in Figure 7-2 assigning the highest priority to parks where critical needs exist and development pressures threaten the availability of park sites. (Responsibility: County Parks, Parks Commission, Planning Department, Planning Commission, Redevelopment Agency, Board of Supervisors, Recreation Districts)

Aptos:

Porter Sesnon: Establish a 15 acre community park facility adjacent to McGregor Drive with a primary focus on the provision of sports playing fields as part of the expansion of New Brighton State Beach. Vigorously pursue inclusion of such community facilities in the planning and funding of the State park improvements.

Live Oak:

Brommer Maintenance Yard: Develop community park facilities at the Brommer Street Maintenance Yard property as a reuse of the site if the present County Operations are phased-out.

Schwan Lake: Seek to establish a combined community/regional park facility at Schwan Lake in association with the adjacent County park properties and the state lands, and with appropriate protection of the natural habitat and open space.

Soquel:

O'Neill Ranch: Establish a combination of neighborhood, community, and regional recreational facilities on the O'Neill Ranch property in association with the adjacent Soquel High School facilities. Provide for expanded development of community park facilities to accommodate some of the community park needs of adjacent Live Oak residents.

Objective 7.4 Rural Recreation

(LCP) To provide recreational facilities at a standard of 5-6 net usable acres per 1,000 persons, including parks, cultural centers and community complexes, in the unincorporated rural areas of the County. These facilities serve as the focus for community, social, organization, cultural, and/or recreational activities for extended rural areas.

Policies

7.4.1 Rural Park Standards

(LCP) Establish local rural parks in the rural portions of the County, typically servicing an area within 4-5 miles radius and consisting of varying sizes depending on the recreational opportunities and resources available. Facilities could include open turf, sport fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, picnic areas, parking, restrooms, tot lot, equestrian facilities, and a building for community meetings and recreational programs.

7.4.2 Rural Park Siting Criteria

(LCP) Select rural park sites based on the following criteria: adjacent or close to existing complementary facilities such as schools, nature reserves, ballfields or playgrounds; accessibility, lands availability, geographical relationship to a particular community, attractive natural features on site, ease of development, and association with existing or proposed roads or trails. These facilities should supplement existing facilities already in a planning area.

7.4.3 Beaches as Rural Parks

(LCP) Recognize that the use of beach areas satisfies some of the rural recreational needs of County residents.

Programs

a. Establish rural facilities as listed below by Planning Area. (Responsibility: County Parks, Parks Commission, Planning Department, Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors, Recreation Districts)

Aptos Hills:

Valencia Hall: Relocate the historic Valencia Hall and Post Office buildings to the Valencia park site, and rehabilitate the structures and improve the site for community meeting and recreation uses.

Bonny Doon:

Bonny Doon: Allow a rural park and community center to serve the Bonny Doon Planning Area potentially to include community meeting facilities, sports fields, play area, picnic area, and restrooms.

Eureka Canyon:

Burt Scott Estate: Develop the Burt Scott Estate for community meeting facilities as well as recreational uses.

Corralitos Community Center: Cooperate with the Corralitos community and the City of Watsonville in maintaining the community meeting facilities on the City property on Browns Valley Road, and in maintaining and expanding the recreational opportunities on the property.

Skyline:

Glenwood: Locate and develop a rural park to serve the Glenwood community and the Skyline Planning area.

Summit:

Loma Prieta Community Center: Support the maintenance and expansion of recreation and community facilities developed in conjunction with the Loma Prieta Community Center and the Loma Prieta and T.E. English schools on Summit Road.

Objective 7.5 Regional Parks

(LCP) To establish a system of regional parks which encompasses the most attractive and unique recreation features, provides a maximum variety of recreational environments, focuses on activities and natural features which are not included in state parks, and appears reasonably feasible for long-term acquisition.

Policies

7.5.1 Regional Park Siting and Standards

(LCP) Select park sites based on the unique resource opportunity and the suitability of the environmental characteristics for recreational use, rather than their relationship to population centers or acreage standards based on projected population. Typical regional parks serve the entire County and are in the range of 50-500 acres, but larger or smaller sites based on the specific recreational opportunity should be considered.

7.5.2 Capital Improvement Program

Schedule unique sites which are threatened with destruction for early acquisition; others may be acquired as opportunities and funding become available.

7.5.3 Uses Within Regional Parks

Provide facilities which include either resource-oriented improvements such as trails, interpretive centers, streamside picnic areas, swimming facilities, and boat launching areas; or, in appropriate areas, high intensity facilities such as equestrian centers, sports fields, game courts, restrooms and camping units. Where appropriate, provide neighborhood and community recreation facilities to serve the local residents.

7.5.4 Recreation Within Converted Quarries and Landfills

Develop abandoned quarries and closed sanitary landfill sites for recreational uses where appropriate. (See policy 7.8.4(f) regarding the Wilder Quarry site.)

7.5.5 Recreation Within Watershed Reserves

Provide public opportunities for wilderness recreation experiences by allowing public access to major publicly-owned domestic watershed reserves, where such use can be accomplished without harm to the watershed function of the areas. Develop trail systems, interpretive signing, and camping sites where feasible.

7.5.6 Access to Major Inland Water Bodies

Provide for public access around the margins of all major natural inland water bodies sufficient to allow the development, where appropriate, of a safe equestrian, hiking, and/or bicycle trail without major disturbance to the shoreline.

7.5.7 Beaches as Regional Parks

(LCP) Recognize the use of beach areas to satisfy regional recreational opportunities for County residents and improve access where appropriate.

Programs

a. Establish regional park facilities at the following locations as listed by planning area. (Responsibility: County Parks, Planning Department, Parks Commission, Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors)

Carbonera:

Graham Hill showgrounds: Establish a regional Equestrian facility at the Graham Hill Showgrounds in conjunction with the facilities utilized by the Santa Cruz County Horseman's Association.

Eureka Canyon:

Grizzly Flat: Support the City of Watsonville in planning and development of a regional facility on the Grizzly Flat watershed property.

Live Oak:

Corcoran Lagoon: Seek State funding for the acquisition, restoration, improvement and protection of this resource to serve both local and regional recreational and educational purposes.

17th Avenue Swim Center: Develop a regional swim center, including associated community facilities, on 17th Avenue south of the railroad tracks,

Primary Public Access Facilities: Support continued acquisition and development of coastal beach land, parking and other support facilities, including Coastview Drive parking area, Corcoran Beach, East Cliff Drive Overlook, Johan's Beach, Moran Lake and Beach, Pleasure Point Overlook, and the 41st Avenue/East Cliff parking as identified in Figure 7-2. Seek State funding as possible for necessary acquisition and development of these facilities which serve both local and regional recreational needs.

Pajaro Valley:

Pinto Lake County Park: Provide regional recreational opportunities at Pinto Lake County Park, along with local park facilities to serve the adjacent urban and rural areas. Limit development activities to the minimum necessary at the north end of the lake, and restrict automobile access to the outer edge of the park. Coordinate use and management of the lake with the City of Watsonville; provide for water oriented activities including rowboating, conoeing, sailing, fishing and wildlife boat tours; prohibit power boating; provide recreation uses which are compatible with the natural resources of the lake; retain the lake as a bird habitat area.

College Lake: Provide for regional recreational use of College Lake if it is acquired and developed for water management purposes as part of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Basin Management Plan. Direct the development of recreational support facilities to the County Fairgrounds or other locations so as to minimize any impact on the continued agricultural use of the surrounding lands.

Salsipuedes:

Pescadero Creek Reservoir: Consider development of regional recreational opportunities commensurate with the environmental protection requirements of a domestic water supply, as part of a multi-use concept for the proposed Pescadero Creek reservoir, if it is constructed.

San Lorenzo Valley:

Watershed Lands: Explore the potential for regional recreational opportunities as part of a multi-use concept for the public watershed lands in the San Lorenzo Valley, and as commensurate with the environmental protection requirements for domestic water supplies.

Summit:

Glenwood and Soquel Reservoirs: Consider development of regional recreational opportunities commensurate with the environmental protection requirements for domestic water supplies, as part of a multi-use concept for the proposed Glenwood and Soquel Creek reservoirs, if they are constructed.

Soquel Demonstration State Forest: Explore regional recreational opportunities as part of a multi-use concept for the Soquel Demonstration State Forest and coordinate with management of the adjacent Nisene Marks State Park.

b. Consider utilizing College Lake for a regional park with limited recreation facilities if it is acquired and expanded and formalized as a groundwater recharge basin as part of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Basin Management Plan. Limit development of recreational support facilities to the County Fairgrounds. (Responsibility: County Parks, Parks Commission, Board of Supervisors, PVWMA)

Objective 7.6 Trails and Recreation Corridors

(LCP) To establish a countywide system of hiking, bicycling and equestrian trails which provides access to and connects the various parks, recreation areas,beaches and urban areas. To link the County trail system with the proposed state trail system between the state parks, adjoining counties, and cities within the County. To obtain trail easements by utilizing existing publicly owned land, and by acquisitions by dedication, in full compliance with Government Code Section 65909(a) for developments and Government Code Sections 66475.4(b) and 66748.1 et seq. for land divisions, provided that state and federal constitutional rights of land owners are not violated.

Policies

7.6.1 Trail Corridor Designation

If and when a Trails Master Plan is adopted by the Board of Supervisors, consistent with the policies outlined herein, including policy 7.6.2, such Master Plan shall be incorporated in the Santa Cruz County General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Use Plan.

7.6.2 Trail Easements

(LCP) Obtain trail easements by encouraging private donation of land, by public purchase, or by the dedication of trail easements, in full compliance with California Government Code Section 65909(a) for development permits and Government Code Sections 66475.4(b) and 66478.1 et seq. for land divisions, provided that state and federal constitutional rights of landowners are not violated. Within urban areas, obtain trail easement dedication within the specified buffer areas adjacent to riparian corridors and wetlands, and/or within the riparian corridor, subject to the above requirements, when consistent with the Riparian Corridor Protection ordinance and all other policies and ordinances protecting sensitive habitats. Any trail easements so obtained shall not be put on any published trail maps until a complete trail from beginning to end has been obtained legally from the respective property owners, and only after adequate funds exist to implement a trail maintenance plan, providing for security measures, fire protection, erosion control, trail rules enforcement, and similar areas of concern. Nothwithstanding the foregoing, it is the policy of Santa Cruz County to accept offers to dedicate coastal access, complete, open, and maintain or assist other public agencies or private non-profit groups to complete, open, and maintain coastal accessways between the first public road and the shoreline as soon as it is feasible. This policy is not intended and shall not be construed as authorizing the exercise of the County's regulatory power in a manner which will take or damage private property for public use without the payment of just compensation in violation of the Constitution of the State of California or of the United States. (See California Public Resource Code Section 30010.)

7.6.3 Utilization of Existing Easements

(LCP) Seek to utilize existing publicly owned lands where possible to implement the trail system, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.6.4 Soquel Creek Trail Corridor

In accordance with the Soquel Village Plan, over the long-term, establish a natural, passive use recreation corridor along Soquel Creek in the Village area with trail facilities and other limited recreational opportunities. Develop trail segments as they become available such as the linkage behind the Soquel Elementary School, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.6.5 Access to the San Lorenzo River

In accordance with the adopted village, town and specific plans for Felton, Ben Lomond and Boulder Creek, develop river access, river trails and other recreational opportunities where appropriate. Consider the following plan objectives when reviewing and implementing projects in these areas subject to policy 7.6.2:

Felton:

Maintain the Felton Covered Bridge Park and continue to restrict and reduce development within the floodway and floodplain. Promote passive recreational development within the floodplain and give consideration to trail connections between Felton Covered Bridge Park and Henry Cowell State Park.

Ben Lomond:

Implement the River Walk described within the town plan emphasizing the river as a town amenity with focus on the Ben Lomond River Park.

Boulder Creek:

Emphasize the San Lorenzo River as a town amenity by providing improvements to the San Lorenzo River Beach/Junction area and other appropriate river areas.

7.6.6 Priorities for Trail Development

Assign highest priority to development of those trails which are included in the State Parks System Trails Plan.

7.6.7 Equestrian Trail Development Near Nisene Marks State Park

Cooperate with State Parks and Recreation in the development of equestrian trails in the vicinity of Nisene Marks State Park, so as to prevent equestrian use of the park in accordance with the deed restrictions for the property, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.6.8 Trail Funding and Construction

When utilizing roadside betterment funds in the development of bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian trails, construct such trails off the pavement within the public right-of-way and separated from traffic by an appropriate distance. Include trail design and construction in all public road development projects on designated trail routes, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.6.9 Trail Design

(LCP) Locate, design and develop trails so as to minimize the impact on the areas through which they travel, subject to policy 7.6.2, habitat and resource protection policies and ordinances, and subject to regular monitoring to identify times and/or locations of adverse impacts and trail degradation. Trails should fit the contour of the land; brush removal and/or grading should be minimal or nonexistent, and access should be controlled where necessary. Ensure that aenvironmental or safety risks are eliminated or mitigated to the greatest extent possible. Prohibit the use of motorized vehicles on trails, and discourage their use by installation of effective barriers at the trailhead. Develop specific criteria for appropriate setbacks for each project.

Programs

a. Establish a program to develop and implement a public countywide Trails Master Plan. The process for developing the master plan shall include public noticing and encourage extensive public participation. During the time a preliminary Trails Master Plan is being developed, and prior to final adoption, public hearings shall be noticed and advertised as follows:

(1) Mail public notices to all affected property owners within 300 feet of a proposed trail at least 30 days prior to the first public meeting,
(2) Print general display advertisements in local newspapers, and
(3) Mail and/or print other notices/advertisements as deemed appropriate by the Board of Supervisors, and
(4) A parcel specific data base of these affected property owners shall be made available to the public at least 30 days prior to the first public hearing.

The implementation portion of the plan shall address acquisition and development priorities, trail design, right-of-way acquisition, trail construction and maintenance and establishment of trail user etiquette and safety guidelines. Designate specific trail routes only after actual on-the-ground analysis and environmental review of individual trail routes have been completed, subject to policy 7.6.2. (Responsibility: County Parks, Parks Commission, Planning Department, Public Works, Transportation Commission, Board of Supervisors)

b. When trails are located along public roadways, locate trails off the pavement and within the public right of way and separated from traffic by an appropriate distance. Include trail construction in all public road development projects on designated trail routes. (Responsibility: Public Works, Parks Commission, County Parks)

c. Provide trail crossing protection signing where appropriate on the County road system. (Responsibility: Public Works, County Parks)

(LCP) d. Seek permission from Southern Pacific and any other person having an ownership interest to utilize rail rights-of-way in the trail system and acquire rail rights-of-way in event of abandonment by Southern Pacific and other railroad companies subject to policy 7.6.2. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Parks Commission, Planning Department, County Parks)

(LCP) e. Provide trail surfacing and bridge underpasses along levees to provide for public access and use, subject to policy 7.6.2. (Responsibility: Parks Commission, Public Works, County Parks)

f. Support the development of the state trails system linking state beaches with the state mountain parks, subject to policy 7.6.2. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Parks Commission, Planning Department, County Parks)

(LCP) g. Develop links between the County and state trail systems in coordination with the State Department of Parks and Recreation, subject to policy 7.6.2. (Responsibility: Parks Commission, Planning Department, County Parks)

(LCP) h. Evaluate the potential for creating a one-way street system on East Cliff Drive in Live Oak to facilitate a wide, safe pedestrian and bicycle promenade. If feasible, construct a facility including landscape enhancement and coastal bank protection, as allowable. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Redevelopment Agency, Planning Department, Public Works, County Parks)

(LCP) i. Develop trails standards within riparian corridors to meet the requirements of the Riparian ordinance, State Fish and Game requirements, and ADA accessibility standards, subject to maintenance by County Parks, and subject to policy 7.6.2. (Responsibility: Parks Commission, County Parks, Planning Department)

Objective 7.7a Coastal Recreation

(LCP) To maximize public use and enjoyment of coastal recreation resources for all people, including those with disabilities, while protecting those resources from the adverse impacts of overuse.

Objective 7.7b Shoreline Access

(LCP) To provide a system of shoreline access to the coast with adequate improvements to serve the general public and the coastal neighborhoods which is consistent with the California Coastal Act, meets public safety needs, protects natural resource areas from overuse, protects public rights and the rights of private property owners, minimizes conflicts with adjacent land uses, and does not adversely affect agriculture, subject to policy 7.6.2.

Objective 7.7c Beach Access

(LCP) To maintain or provide access, including visual access, to every beach to which a granted access exists or to which the public has acquired a right of access through use, as established through judicial determination of prescriptive rights, and acquisition through appropriate legal proceedings, in order to ensure one access to every pocket beach and convenient, well distributed access to long sandy beaches, subject to policy 7.6.2.

COASTAL RECREATION

Policies

7.7.1 Coastal Vistas

(LCP) Encourage pedestrian enjoyment of ocean areas and beaches by the development of vista points and overlooks with benches and railings, and facilities for pedestrian access to the beaches, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.7.2 Recreational Boating

(LCP) Encourage increased recreational boating opportunities for County residents by cooperating with the Port District and the cities of Capitola and Santa Cruz to provide dry storage facilities for small boats.

7.7.3 Provision of Open Water Moorings

(LCP) Request the regulating agencies such as the U.S. Coast Guard and Army Corps of Engineers to permit open water moorings off suitable locations along the County's coastline taking into consideration the following factors:

- public safety concerns
- disturbance to the marine environment
- individual and cumulative visual impacts
- other communities' experiences with open water moorings
- interference with other water-related uses

7.7.4 Maintaining Recreation Oriented Uses

(LCP) Protect the coastal blufftop areas and beaches from intrusion by nonrecreational structures and incompatible uses to the extent legally possible without impairing the constitutional rights of the property owner, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.7.5 Coastal Bicycle Route

(LCP) Provide for safe bicycle travel along the coastal corridor by developing a coordinated, continuous bicycle route parallel to the shoreline, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.7.6 Hiking and Biking Trail Network

(LCP) Subject to policy 7.6.2, establish a system of hiking and bicycle trails and bridges which provides access to and connects the various parks, recreation areas, beaches, and urban areas. For example, develop trails to link Nisene Marks State Park with Seacliff State Beach. Link the County trail system between the state parks and provide a lateral trail route along the coast. Design trails to be accessible to persons with disabilities where resources can be protected.

7.7.7 Equestrian Access to Beaches

(LCP) Allow equestrian access to the beaches where conflicts with other beach usage can be resolved, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.7.8 Equestrian Trail Network

(LCP) Establish equestrian trails which provide access to designated parks, recreation areas, and beaches where equestrian uses are permitted where use conflicts and potential impacts can be resolved, subject to policy 7.6.2.

Programs

(LCP) a. Improve existing parking areas through the use of fencing, striping, landscaping, bike racks, and safety improvements; provide safe stairways for beach access as part of the program to upgrade vehicular parking. (Responsibility: Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) b. Increase parking opportunities to serve visitors to the Live Oak coastline in locations where such facilities are feasible and compatible with the neighborhood and the natural setting. Provide on- and off-street parking improvements and facilities within walking distance of the beaches and bluffs, or located at more remote locations and linked by shuttle transportation. Identify appropriate locations and improvements in cooperation with the local community. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Planning Department, County Parks, Public Works)

(LCP) c. Develop and maintain vista points or overlooks with benches and railings at the end of Geoffrey Drive, and at various points along East Cliff Drive including Corcoran Lagoon, Moran Lake, the west end of Pleasure Point Drive, the promenade along East Cliff Drive between 32nd and 41st Avenues, at South Palisades, at the southern end of 41st Avenue, Seaview Drive and Baldwin Drive. (Responsibility: County Parks, Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) d. Encourage the continued recreational use of Monterey Bay through the development of marine programs and facilities that may serve local residents. (Responsibility: County Parks)

GENERAL PROVISION OF PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE SHORELINE

Policies

7.7.9 Shoreline Access Maps and Charts

(LCP) Designate a system of shoreline access to the coast, both public and private, and the appropriate locations for primary and neighborhood public access and improvements, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.7.10 Protecting Existing Beach Access

(LCP) Protect existing pedestrian, and, where appropriate, equestrian and bicycle access to all beaches to which the public has a right of access, whether acquired by grant or through use, as established through judicial determination of prescriptive rights, and acquisition through appropriate legal proceedings. Protect such beach access through permit conditions such as easement dedication or continued maintenance as an accessway by a private group, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.7.11 Vertical Access

(LCP) Determine whether new development may decrease or otherwise adversely affect the availability of public access, if any, to beaches and/or increases the recreational demand. If such impact will occur, the County will obtain, as a condition of new development approval, dedication of vertical access easements adequate to accommodate the intended use, as well as existing access patterns, if adverse environmental impacts and use conflicts can be mitigated, under the following conditions:

(a) Outside the Urban Services Line:
- to pocket beaches if there is no other dedicated vertical access;
- to long sandy beaches if there is no dedicated vertical access within one-half mile;
- to bluffs which are large enough and of a physical character to accommodate safety improvements, and which provide room for public use as a vista point.

(b) Within the Urban Services Line:
- from the first public roadway to the shoreline if there is not dedicated access within 650 feet;
- through properties inland of the first public roadway if there is evidence that residents have been using the property to gain access to the shoreline, and if closure of the pathway would require residents to detour more than one-eighth mile.

(c) All dedications required shall comply with policy 7.6.2 and the other policies of this chapter.

7.7.12 Lateral Access

(LCP) Determine whether new development would interfere with or otherwise adversely affect public lateral access along beaches. If such impact will occur, the County will obtain dedication of lateral access along the beach to the first line of terrestrial vegetation to the base of the bluffs, where present, or to the base of any seawall; and the dedication of lateral access along bluff tops where pedestrian and/or bicycle trails can be provided and where environmental and use conflict issues can be mitigated. Unrestricted lateral access to North Coast beaches shall be provided where environmental and public safety concerns can be mitigated. All dedications required shall comply with policy 7.6.2 and the other policies of this chapter.

7.7.13 Access Maintenance Responsibility and Liability

(LCP) Open accessways only after a public agency or private association agrees to accept responsibility for maintenance and liability of the accessway, including regular garbage collection and recycling at the trailhead, along the trail, and at the beach destination. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is the policy of Santa Cruz County to accept offers to dedicate coastal access, to complete, open and maintain or assist other public agencies or private non-profit groups to complete, open, and maintain coastal accessways between the first public road and the shoreline as soon as it is feasible.

Also see Safety Element, policy 6.2.16 regarding shoreline protection.

Programs

(LCP) a. Pursue all legally appropriate means, including negotiation, new development permit conditioning subject to policy 7.6.2, judicial determination of prescriptive rights, and acquisition through appropriate legal proceedings to ensure the maintenance of public access at all primary public access points and local access to all neighborhood access points. (Responsibility: Planning Department, County Parks)

(LCP) b. Work with the State Department of Parks and Recreation, the Office of the Attorney General, the Coastal Commission, and the Coastal Conservancy to obtain a judicial determination of existing public beach and shoreline access and ownership, where it appears a right of access has been acquired by use. (Responsibility: Planning Department, County Parks, Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) c. Develop a program in conjunction with the County Sheriff, State Highway Patrol, State Parks and other appropriate public and private agencies, to ensure provision of adequate law enforcement and supervision on beaches, beach accessways and immediate vicinity. (Responsibility: County Parks, Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) d. Develop a procedural program in conjunction with the County Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services, Department of Public Works, State Department of Parks and Recreation, Coastal Conservancy, and other appropriate agencies for the acceptance of offers of dedication obtained as conditions of coastal development permits, subject to policy 7.6.2. The Real Property section of the Department of Public Works shall maintain a current list of dedications which have not been accepted by the Board of Supervisors. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Public Works, County Parks)

(LCP) e. Improve, widen, and complete pedestrian/bikeway along East Cliff Drive between 32nd and 41st Avenues where right-of-way permits; install additional benches and landscaping. (Responsibility: County Parks, Public Works)

(LCP) f. Establish an access signing program which:

(1) Removes incorrect, misleading, and confusing signs.

(2) Develops, installs, and maintains standard signs for primary destinations and neighborhood accessways and designates appropriate locations for these signs.

(Responsibility: County Parks, Public Works)

PRIMARY PUBLIC SHORELINE ACCESS DESIGNATIONS

Policies

7.7.14 Primary Public Access Points

(LCP) Primary public access points shall be developed only when they can provide automobile parking or an acceptable alternative, and when all environmental impacts and use conflicts can be satisfactorily mitigated, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.7.15 Areas Designated for Primary Public Access

(LCP) The following are designated as primary public access, subject to policy 7.6.2*:

North Coast
Waddell Bluffs
Waddell Creek Beach
Waddell Creek to Greyhound Rock hang gliding area (present access limited to private hang gliding club with permission of owner)
Greyhound Rock Beach
Pelican Rock bluff
Bluff or blufftop north of Scott Creek
Scott Creek Beach
Davenport Landing Beach
Davenport bluff
Davenport Beach
Panther Beach
Bonny Doon Beach
Yellowbank Beach
**Red, White, and Blue Beach
Four-Mile Beach

Live Oak
Twin Lakes State Beach
Black's Beach (Lincoln Beach)
Johan's Beach
Santa Maria Beach/26thAve, Beach (Corcoran Lagoon)
Moran Lake Beach
Pleasure Point/East Cliff Drive
End of 41st Avenue

Mid-County
**New Brighton Beach
***Seacliff State Beach (North End Seacliff to Aptos Creek)
**Rio del Mar Beach
Seascape
**Manresa State Beach (North)

South County
**Manresa State Beach (South)
**Sunset State Beach
**Palm Beach

*Locations described as "bluff" or "blufftop" are coastal overlooks and do not include beach access.

**Denotes primary public accesses which have existing basic improvements, and law enforcement necessary to accommodate the increase in visitors associated with state and regional publicity.

***Seacliff Beach has two primary access points

7.7.16 Improvements at Primary Access Points

(LCP) Provide, encourage provision of, and/or require as a condition of new development approval, subject to policy 7.6.2, the following improvements at primary destinations: path improvements and maintenance; recycling, garbage collection; automobile parking, or in an impacted neighborhood, an acceptable alternative such as beach shuttle; bicycle parking; transit service; access provisions for disabled if feasible; restrooms; law enforcement; scenic overlooks if appropriate; safety signs if needed, and identification signs.

7.7.17 Shell Road Beach Access

(LCP) Utilize the County park facility on Shell Road to provide beach access if needed to augment the state facility at Palm Beach.

Programs

(LCP) a. Maintain the POSCS Activities Guides to inform the public of primary public access to the shoreline. Establish an implementation schedule for improvements to primary access areas, giving highest priority to the provision of basic improvements. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, County Parks)

(LCP) b. Acquire and/or gain use rights for suitable property for designated off roadway parking at locations designated for beach access to primary destinations, subject to policy 7.6.2. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, County Parks, Transportation Commission)

c. Maintain a pedestrian corridor to the beach on the west side of Corcoran Lagoon in order to prevent beach access through the salt marsh and coastal strand biotic communities. (Responsibility: County Parks, Public Works)

(LCP) d. Apply the following development standards to the parking lot at the intersection of 41st Avenue and East Cliff Drive:
(1) landscaping to enhance compatibility with surrounding area;
(2) clearly articulated pedestrian connection to the shoreline.
(Responsibility: Planning Department, Public Works, County Parks)

(LCP) e. Purchase and improve the lot at the intersection of East Cliff Drive and Pleasure Point Drive as part of the pedestrian/bikeway system, a vista point, and a staging area for surfing. (Responsibility: County Parks, Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

NEIGHBORHOOD SHORELINE ACCESS DESIGNATIONS

Policies

7.7.18 Areas Designated for Neighborhood Public Access

(LCP) Maintain a system of neighborhood access points appropriate for access by local residents at the following locations and other accesses as determined by the Board of Supervisors, subject to policy 7.6.2 :

Live Oak
at the end of the following streets:
7th Avenue
12th Avenue
13th Avenue
Geoffrey Drive
Sunny Cove Avenue
18th Avenue
19th Avenue
20th Avenue
21st Avenue
Corcoran Beach
23rd Avenue
26th Avenue
Rockview Drive
the walkway from the end of 30th Avenue between East Cliff and Pleasure Point and Pleasure Point and the Shoreline
the stairway between 35th Ave. and 36th Ave.
38th Avenue
41st Avenue

Mid-County
end of Oakdale Drive
end of Beachgate Way
Cliff Drive between Lamanda Drive and Bayview Drive
Shore Trail at Seaview Drive
Sumner Avenue
Hidden Beach
Via Concha
Via Gaviota
Via Palo Alto
Seascape Park
Seascape arroyos
Trestle Beach

South County
Place de Mer
Sand Dollar Beach
Zils Road

7.7.19 Improvements at Neighborhood Access Points

(LCP) Provide, encourage, and/or require provision of the following improvements appropriate to neighborhood access points: path improvements and maintenance; bicycle parking; recycling; garbage collection; and law enforcement, subject to policy 7.6.2.

7.7.20 Yacht Harbor Beach Access

(LCP) Encourage visitor beach access and visitor serving facilities in the Live Oak area to concentrate between the Yacht Harbor and 17th Avenue; maintain the present low intensity of use for beaches east of 17th Avenue.

7.7.21 Discourage Access Publicity

(LCP) Discourage regional and statewide publicity for neighborhood access points, but in no case shall developed neighborhood access points be unsigned, nor shall publicity be discouraged for any state-funded access.

LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ACCESS

Policies

7.7.22 Access to Environmentally Sensitive Habitats

(LCP) Obtain controlled public access to environmentally sensitive habitats through grants, dedications of easements or other means, including as a condition of new development approval, subject to policy 7.6.2. Open the access only for education or nature study purposes, and only when improvements and management are adequate to protect the resources.

7.7.23 Off-Road Vehicle Use

(LCP) Prohibit off-road vehicle use of shoreline accesses and beaches.

7.7.24 Environmentally Damaging Trails

(LCP) Reduce the number of trails to destinations where the present level of use is causing deterioration to sensitive habitats or serious erosion problems. Restore damaged or deteriorated areas, and monitor all trails for future resource damage and restore as needed.

7.7.25 Unsafe Trails

(LCP) Discourage public use of access trails which are hazardous because safety improvements have not been provided or cannot be built due to physical limitations. Specifically:

(a) Close informal trails which are hazardous when an alternative safe access is available for the same beach or bluff area as shown on the LCP shoreline access maps.

(b) When no safe access alternative is available, post as dangerous trails which pose a risk of serious bodily harm. If feasible, specify the nature of the hazard on the sign: "unstable bluff," "falling rocks," etc.

7.7.26 Protection of Private Property

(LCP) Allow property owners with facilities adjacent to high use recreational areas and shoreline accessways to erect barriers, consistent with LCP policies, designed to discourage public encroachment upon private property while ensuring that beach access is protected.

7.7.27 Accessways and Agricultural Areas

(LCP) Minimize the number of accessways through and adjacent to agricultural areas. Delineate the accessways adjacent to agricultural areas, so it is clear where the public is allowed. As needed, use such methods as low barriers, fences, thorny hedges, and paving.

7.7.28 Separating Agricultural Fields and Accessways

(LCP) Require separation of agricultural fields and identified accessways by as much distance as practicable and further providing buffer zones, elevation separations, fencing, landscaping with natural vegetation where practicable.

7.7.29 Separating Access Users From Toxic Spraying

(LCP) Require separation of access users from aerial and highly toxic spraying, and post the hazard of aerial and highly toxic spraying. Consider, where appropriate, provision of a gate at the road and a sign on the gate for pesticide spray warnings.

7.7.30 Protecting Agricultural Facilities

(LCP) Require, where necessary, and allow agricultural operators with facilities adjacent to high use recreational areas and shoreline accessways to erect barriers, consistent with LCP policies, designed to discourage public encroachment while ensuring that beach access is protected.

7.7.31 Transportation To Beaches

(LCP) Require new recreation and visitor-serving developments in the Coastal Zone to support alternative forms of transportation to the beaches, e.g., bikes, small scale shuttle service.

Programs

(LCP) a. Support, encourage, and participate in an access coordinating committee with the State Department of Parks and Recreation, California Coastal Commission, the cities of Santa Cruz and Capitola, and any other interested public agency or private group to establish a countywide access program. Seek financial and technical assistance from, among others, the State Department of Boating and Waterways and the State Coastal Conservancy. The committee should focus on relieving congestion at urban access points; ensuring adequate countywide access and resource protection, including development of a monitoring program; developing access with an emphasis on the features of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary; and investigating the possibility of State Department of Parks and Recreation management of rural access points and joint City-County management of urban access points. (Responsibility: County Parks, Board of Supervisors, Planning Department)

(LCP) b. Develop a program to reduce the number of trails where the present use level is causing deterioration to sensitive habitats or serious erosion problems. Specifically:

(1) Concentrate access on the trail or trails not damaging to the resources.

(2) If this alternative is not available, mitigate the access impacts through improvements and management of at least one trail, wherever possible.

(3) Close or discourage use of remaining trails causing deterioration through one or more of the following:

- Post restrictive, educational, or informational signs. For example, "Dune Restoration Project," "Danger Poison Oak," "Please, No Access."
- Mask the trail site by major restoration.
- Eliminate the trail site by major restoration.
- Erect a physical barrier to entry.

(Responsibility: County Parks)

(LCP) c. Request the State Departments of Fish and Game and Parks and Recreation to evaluate the potential impacts of continued marine mammal population growth on north Santa Cruz County beaches and marine environments. Consider and take appropriate actions to address the potential conflicts between human and marine mammal use of the beaches. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) d. Develop a program to eliminate off-road vehicle (ORV) use of shoreline accesses and beaches. Specifically:

(1) Clearly post the destinations being used by ORV's: "ORV Use Prohibited, Chapter 10.50, Santa Cruz County Code."

(2) Erect barriers, or as appropriate, gate mechanisms which effectively eliminate ORV access.

(3) Establish an enforcement program with high fines and ticketing.

(Responsibility: County Sheriff, County Parks)

(LCP) e. Develop a program in conjunction with the County Department of Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Services, Department of Public works, State Department of Parks and Recreation, Caltrans, and other appropriate agencies to provide for the maintenance and policing of beaches and accessways, including a recycling program. Consider the following:

(1) State funding sources.

(2) Local funding sources

- transient occupancy tax
- enforcement fines fund
- parking and user fees

(Responsibility: County Parks, Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) f. Develop an action program to secure full-time lifeguard emergency response for public beaches including on-call lifeguards, vehicles, a boat, and a boat crew. In participation with other agencies, install more surf warning signs and "no lifeguard on duty" warning signs. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, State Parks, County Parks, Public Works)

(LCP) g. Encourage the Monterey Bay Area Aquatic Safety Committee's work to improve interagency communication and foster aquatic and marine shoreline safety information. Develop a program and seek State funding to accomplish the distribution of such aquatic and marine shoreline safety information in the greater San Francisco Bay Area. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, County Parks)

(LCP) h. Seek funds from the State Coastal Conservancy, U.S. Land and Water Conservation Fund, and other appropriate agencies for acquisition and development of public access. (Responsibility: County Parks, Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) i. Provide access controls and improve parking facilities at existing pullout parking locations where right-of-way can be obtained, and when improvements have been made, prohibit parking on the shoulder of the highway. (Responsibility: Public Works)

(LCP) j. Post and stripe coastline roads in a manner designed to discourage parked cars from creating hazards for moving bicyclists. (Responsibility: Transportation Commission, Public Works)

(LCP) k. Include designated parking areas within the Coastal Zone in capital improvement programs for the County. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, County Administrative Office)

(LCP) l. Develop alternative transportation programs and funding which provide coastal access .(Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Transportation Commission)

(LCP) m. Improve bus turnouts, including no parking signs and enforcement, along Highway 1 and encourage increased regular bus service in lieu of park and ride or shuttle service in the non-urbanized coastal area. (Responsibility: Public Works)

(LCP) n. Provide bicycle lanes or widen shoulders along certain coastal roadways:
(1) San Andreas Road (State Route 1 to Beach Road);
(2) Beach Road (Palm Beach to Watsonville);
(3) McGregor Drive (Park Avenue to State Park Drive);
(4) Sumner Avenue (Rio del Mar Boulevard to Seascape Boulevard, beach parking south of Clubhouse Drive to be preserved, bike lane to be developed on shoulder if possible).
(Responsibility: Transportation Commission, Public Works)

(LCP) o. Request private and public transit companies' carriers connecting the coastal area with the Santa Clara Valley to provide bicycle carrying services. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Transportation Commission)

(LCP) p. Improve and complete recreational bicycle/pedestrian loops in the South County coastal area, subject to policy 7.6.2:
(1) Complete Watsonville-Pajaro Dunes-Sunset Beach bicycle route loop.
(2) Extend and link, as much as feasible, New Brighton Beach, Potbelly Beach, and Los Olas Roads.
(Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Transportation Commission, County Parks)

(LCP) q. Seek funding to develop beach operations and management plans for high use beach access areas such as Rio del Mar, Opal Cliffs, Sunny Cove, and Moran Lake and those beach access areas that have State Coastal Conservancy funded accesses. Incorporate the management plans into the LCP. (Responsibility: County Parks, Planning Department)

Objective 7.8 State Parks, Open Space and Facilities

(LCP) To protect through state ownership those areas that are of statewide interest or concern, and that service a regional or statewide need for recreational opportunities. The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation. Figure 7-4 shows existing state park acreage, miles of beach, and annual attendance.

Figure 7-4
California State Parks Within Santa Cruz County
1991/92 FY

Coastal Units	Acreage	Beach (miles)	Estimated Attendance
Manresa	138	2.2	171,986
Santa Cruz Mission	2	0	N/A
Natural Bridges	53	0.3	650,756
New Brighton	94	0.6	361,794
Seacliff	87	1.8	1,659,866
Sunset	302	3.5	460,103
Twin Lakes	94	2.8	1,278,430
Wilder Ranch	4,505	3.3	55,551
Total	**5,275**	**14.5**	**4,638,486**

Mountain Units	Acreage	Beach (miles)	Estimated Attendance
Big Basin	17,907	1.3	900,493
Castle Rock	4,834	0	55,275
Henry Cowell	1,760	0	263,381
Fall Creek	2,522	0	51,289
Nisene Marks	10,036	0	116,904
Total	**37,059**	**1.3**	**1,387,342**

Grand Total	**42,334**	**15.8**	**6,025,828**

SOURCE: California State Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation, Santa Cruz District Statistics, January 15, 1993

Policies

7.8.1 State Open Space and Trail Easements

Encourage State Parks and Recreation to use, wherever possible, open space and trail easements as alternatives to outright acquisition of property for state park trail expansion.

7.8.2 State Parks Acquisition Programs

Cooperate with state activities to obtain and develop additional state park facilities in the following locations as listed by planning area and encourage and support full consultation by the State Department of Parks and Recreation with affected County residents.

7.8.3 Coastal Zone Acquisition Priorities

(LCP) Set each of the following as acquisition objectives in the Coastal Zone:

(a) Purchase for consolidation of existing holdings.
(b) Purchase to protect threatened fragile resources.
(c) Purchase to provide additional sites for high demand facilities including heavily used beaches where an excessive burden of maintenance and supervision is placed on private owners.

7.8.4 Recommended Acquisitions

(LCP) Recommend, encourage, and support each of the following State Park acquisitions:

(a) Manresa Beach State Park South and Sunset Beach State Park: acquisition of the remaining intervening private beach.
(b) New Brighton State Beach: addition of Pot Belly Beach Uplands property.
(c) Corcoran Lagoon Beach: any portions of the lagoon or beach that may become available. Acquisition of lagoon areas should occur only upon discontinuance of radio station uses.
(d) Big Basin: Support proposed state plans for expansion of Big Basin Redwoods State Park southward to include the Blooms Creek watershed and Eagle Rock.
(e) Henry Cowell: Encourage expansion of Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park to include the Least Disturbed Watershed of Eagle Creek and the adjacent unique Ponderosa Pine community. As an alternative, allow commercial recreational development of the site consistent with surrounding land uses, environmental protection, and the natural resource values of the site.
(f) Wilder Ranch: Support proposed state plans for the expansion of Wilder Ranch State Park. Consider a reclamation plan for Wilder Quarry which provides for a recreational vehicle park/campground in conjunction with Wilder Ranch State Park. (See Land Use section 2.23, Figure 2-5.)
(g) Fall Creek: Encourage expansion of Fall Creek State Park to include and protect additional portions of the Fall Creek watershed.
(h) Nisene Marks: Support proposed state plans for expansion of Nisene Marks State Park.

7.8.5 Development Priorities

(LCP) If funds are severely limited, encourage developments consistent with one of the following development priorities (only after adequate maintenance and supervision are assured):

(a) Early development of access trails and beach parking at Wilder Ranch State Park.
(b) Low cost improvements to protect public safety, natural resources, and cultural and historical resources, where the most severe environmental damage is occurring.
(c) Development of overnight uses (camping, hostel, etc.), where appropriate, at new parks.
(d) Development to increase capacity of existing facilities.

7.8.6 Maintenance and Management Programs

(LCP) Require adequate maintenance and management programs concurrent with all State Parks development projects.

Aptos:

7.8.7 Seacliff Beach

(LCP) Encourage the state to provide more access to Seacliff Beach, and to develop the Seacliff parking reserve for a play area.

7.8.8 Valencia Lagoon

(LCP) Support state and federal preservation of the Santa Cruz Long-Toed Salamander habitat at Valencia Lagoon as a park preserve.

7.8.9 Nisene Marks

Support state efforts to connect Nisene Marks State Park with Seacliff State Beach through a public park/trail system.

Pajaro Valley:

7.8.10 County Fairgrounds

Support continued use of the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds for its recreational and educational use.

San Andreas:

7.8.11 Ellicott Pond

Support state and federal preservation of the Santa Cruz Long-Toed Salamander habitat at Ellicott Pond. Designate the existing public ownership at Ellicott Pond as a park preserve.

Soquel

7.8.12 Soquel Demonstration State Forest

Support State use of the 3,000 acre forest for research, education, recreation and demonstration of innovative timber harvesting and forestry techniques, while at the same time conserving and protecting the wildlife, fisheries, vegetation, soil, watershed and aesthetic values of the forest.

Summit:

7.8.13 Nisene Marks

Encourage the development of trail systems to the extent allowed by deed restrictions in Nisene Marks State Park to provide access and support continued use by local residents as well as tourists.

7.8.14 Day Use Facilities Enhancement

(LCP) Where appropriate, request the provision of additional day use facilities at publicly owned beaches and bluff tops such as picnicking, viewpoints, restrooms and other day use facilities.

7.8.15 Tourist Commercial Concessions

(LCP) Encourage the provision of tourist commercial concessions within state parks at appropriate destinations (commercial concessions should not be allowed at rural, remote beaches).

Programs

(LCP) a. Where appropriate, request State Parks and other appropriate public agencies to retain and expand appropriate park and recreational uses such as picnic facilities, camping sites, RV facilities, trails and shoreline access. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) b. Where appropriate, support State Parks budget requests for expanded development, management (including adequate law enforcement and maintenance), and use of Santa Cruz County facilities. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) c. Encourage the provision of additional free facilities. Where user fees must be charged, encourage State Parks to continue to provide season passes and a discounted fee schedule for economically disadvantaged groups such as elderly, or non-profit organizations. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) d. Encourage replacement of damaged or destroyed public beach recreation facilities.(Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) e. Request State Parks to develop high demand facilities (such as parking and picnic areas) within three years of acquisition. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) f. Request the State Parks Department to give highest possible priority to continuing and substantially improving maintenance and management programs for its existing state park facilities. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) g. Encourage and support management of wetlands of the Pajaro River Lagoon, Aptos Creek, Wilder Creek and other wildlife habitat in State Parks. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

Objective 7.9 Organized Camps and Conference Centers

(LCP) To allow for a full range of educational, religious, and recreational facilities operated by organized groups to utilize the varied scenic and natural settings of the County's rural and mountain areas while providing proper management and protection of local natural resources.

(Also see policies in section 2.16, Visitor Accommodations Designation)

Policies

7.9.1 Rural and Mountain Residential Locations

(LCP) Allow lower intensity organized camps and conference centers with recreational and education facilities to locate in Rural and Mountain residential areas, consistent with infrastructure capacity, natural and visual resource protection, protection of agriculture, and other LCP policies.

7.9.2 Density and Development of Organized Camps and Conference Centers

(LCP) Administer uniform densities for all organized camps and conference centers in Rural Residential, Mountain Residential and Resource Conservation areas by applying residential density requirements of 2 1/2 to 20 net developable acres per dwelling unit. This density may differ from the underlying land use designation indicated on the General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Use Maps; however, it is intended to reflect the specialized service requirements and lesser development impacts of these facilities. Utilize the rural density matrix system to determine the allowable density within this range: include maximum density standards for protection of natural, agricultural, and visual resources; development hazards and constraints present; availability of access and services. If the use of the property is changed from organized camp or conference center, any other residential uses shall be considered at the underlying density shown on the General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Use Maps. Require each development proposal to include a master development plan and resource management program for the property involved. Densities for projects in suburban areas shall be based on the residential density requirements of 1-5 net developable acres per dwelling unit per the rural density matrix system. In the urban residential designations, density is to be based on developable site area as specified in the Zoning ordinance.

7.9.3 Less Than Year-Round Operation

(LCP) Allow the intensity of temporary organized camp uses to be greater than year-round operations where compatible with the social and natural environment and the available supporting infrastructure, and consistent with the appropriate development standards and only when such temporary uses do not cumulatively exceed the impacts of a year-round operation.

7.9.4 Preservation of Wilderness Areas

Use to advantage the potential of organized camp uses with recreational and educational facilities to preserve rural character and wilderness areas, and yet allow limited public access and use.

7.9.5 Residential and Day School Use

(LCP) Allow facilities for both residential and day schools at organized camps and conference centers only at densities which reflect their impact on access, services, and the environment. Assess impacts and establish appropriate overall densities through environmental assessment of individual projects.

Program

a. Maintain the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Zone District to require a Development Permit and Master Development Plan and to maintain review procedures and appropriate density factors for group quarters and temporary occupancy. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors)

Objective 7.10 Commercial Recreation

(LCP) To allow for the development of commercial recreation facilities such as golf courses, stables, swimming pools, tennis courts, camping, picnicking areas, outdoor entertainment and historical theme parks that are compatible with rural and mountain settings and that provide expanded recreation opportunities to the public, provided that they are compatible with environmental resources.

Policies

7.10.1 Designation of Existing Parks, Recreation and Open Space Sites (O-R)

(LCP) Utilize a Parks, Recreation and Open Space designation to recognize existing public and private recreational uses, including state, regional, and County parks, recreational vehicle parks, campgrounds, ecological preserves, golf courses, and other commercial recreational uses.

7.10.2 Zoning Consistency

(LCP) Permit commercial recreational development based on appropriate zoning regulations. Evaluate each development proposal on the basis of its particular site requirements, environmental impact, and appropriateness of the location for the proposed use.

7.10.3 Complementary Overnight Visitor Accommodations

(LCP) Allow development of appurtenant overnight visitor accommodations at appropriate commercial recreation facilities where such use is consistent with maintaining the recreation use and with other General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan policies.

7.10.4 Density Standards for Visitor Accommodations

(LCP) Establish densities for visitor accommodations in the Parks, Recreation and Open Space designation consistent with the open space character of the designation:

(a) Within the Urban Services Line at 3 campsites or 3 visitor accommodation units or the equivalent per developable acre;

(b) Outside of the Urban Services Line equivalent to 1 unit/2.5-20 developable acres as determined by the Rural Density Matrix.

7.10.5 Intensity of Use

(LCP) Recognize an intensity of use for existing public and private parks and recreational uses at the existing level of development, including development(s) approved by the California Coastal Commission but not yet constructed. Permit new development or increases in intensity of uses where consistent with infrastructure constraints, scenic, natural and agricultural resource protection.

7.10.6 Environmental Considerations for Development Proposals

(LCP) Regulate commercial recreational development through development permit controls to evaluate each development proposal on the basis of its particular site requirements, environmental impact, and appropriateness of the location for the proposed use. Encourage recreational uses in urban areas.

7.10.7 Future Park Site Designation

(LCP) Designate sites as Proposed Parks, Recreation and Open Space intended for park and recreational uses and allow only uses consistent with the County's Zoning ordinance after review by the Parks and Recreation Commission for possible acquisition by the state or Santa Cruz County.

Program

a. Investigate and develop intensity of use standards for application to commercial recreation facilities countywide. (Responsibility: Planning Commission, Planning Department)

CULTURAL SERVICES

Santa Cruz County is home to innumerable artists of all disciplines, as well as several nationally recognized performing arts groups. The arts entertain, teach, and inspire our citizens as well as contribute to the economic vitality of the County.

Santa Cruz County has historically supported the arts. In 1976 the County formed its Arts Commission to advise the Board of Supervisors on matters relating to the promotion of artistic and cultural events for County residents.

In the late 1970s, the County financed development of a Cultural Action Plan which led to the formation of the Cultural Council, the Art Museum of Santa Cruz County, the Pajaro Valley Arts Council and other similar groups. The Cultural Council is Santa Cruz County's state/local partner, receiving California Arts Council grant monies and serving as the central fund raising agency. The Cultural Council's goals include improving arts education in our schools, strengthening existing arts institutions and encouraging new endeavors, planning for needed arts facilities, assisting artists in managing and marketing their work, and making annual grants to artists and non-profit arts organizations in all disciplines, ethnicities and geographic areas of the County.

In 1991, the Board of Supervisors established a Percent for Art Program for public capital improvement projects. This program, accompanied with increased involvement by the private sector, will do much to endow a physical cultural heritage for generations to come and promote neighborhood pride, giving residents a sense of place.

Objective 7.11 Cultural Arts

To support performing and visual art facilities and programs which promote access to the arts and provide a variety of art opportunities for the diverse citizenry of the community.

Policies

7.11.1 Funding for the Arts
Encourage the funding of arts programs and facilities through public/private partnerships and private non-profit art agencies.

7.11.2 Performing Arts Center
Establish a centrally located performing arts center.

7.11.3 Making the Arts Accessible
Broaden access for diverse groups of the community to the performing and visual arts including the disabled and other traditionally underserved populations. Promote public awareness of the value of the arts and culture; recognize the arts as a fundamental part of education.

7.11.4 Economic Value of the Arts
Recognize the potential economic value of the arts industry and promote the County's cultural activities as an important economic resource. Promote Santa Cruz County as an arts destination, expanding inclusion of information on the arts and on arts activities in tourism marketing and promotion.

7.11.5 Integrating the Arts into Development Projects
Encourage private commercial and industrial developers to include artists as members of their design teams, or art as part of their development, as appropriate.

7.11.6 Art as Community Gateways
Designate sites throughout the County for art enhancements or gateways.

7.11.7 Live/Work Space for Artists
Continue to allow live/work space for artists and others as part of the land use plan at appropriate locations as established in existing County ordinances.

Programs

a. Maintain the Arts Commission (SCCAC) which is charged with the responsibility of meeting the needs for educating, encouraging and coordinating artistic endeavors in the County. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors.)

b. Explore new funding formulae such as a dedication of a portion of the various County tax levies, or the allocation of a percentage of the proceeds of a County capital bond or other long term financing techniques, in support of arts programs and/or facilities. (Responsibility: County Parks, Arts Commission, Board of Supervisors)

c. Through the Arts Commission develop partnerships with the private sector and the business community to encourage support of the arts. (Responsibility: Arts Commission)

d. Continue to support the Cultural Council of Santa Cruz County for County arts fundraising and the awarding of grants to local artists and arts organizations. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

e. Continue to endorse state and federal grants, such as the State/Local Partner program, to local non-profit arts agencies. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

f. Coordinate with government agencies and the private sector to conduct a feasibility study for the purpose of considering programs to fund construction and operation of a performing arts center. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Arts Commission, Cultural Council)

g. Establish performing arts programs in County parks and other appropriate public facilities, and comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act to enable physical access to these facilities. (Responsibility: Arts Commission, County Parks)

h. Maintain and expand art exhibits in the County government facilities. (Responsibility: Arts Commission)

i. Provide increased recreational opportunities for citizens to learn skills in a variety of artistic disciplines and conduct informational workshops for educators, human service providers, parents, etc. to promote the arts as a mechanism which enriches creativity, self-esteem, and the life quality of citizens of all ages and circumstances. (Responsibility: Arts Commission, County Parks)

j. Develop regional cultural centers with classes and programming in a variety of disciplines for all ages. Potential sites to include, Quail Hollow Ranch, Cunnison Lane Park, Polo Grounds, Pinto Lake. (Responsibility: County Parks, Board of Supervisors.)

k. Incorporate public art, funded by the 2 percent Public Art program into the architecture and landscape design of County construction projects, including improvements to the County's infrastructure, as appropriate. (Responsibility: Arts Commission, Board of Supervisors)

l. Create an inventory of public art in Santa Cruz County and establish a maintenance program in cooperation with affected agencies for the preservation of these resources. (Responsibility: Arts Commission, County Parks)

SCHOOLS

Objective 7.12 School Facilities

To ensure that adequate school facilities and services are provided as an essential public service prerequisite to any increase in residential development which would include school-age or potential school-age children and to alleviate current critical school shortages.

Policies

7.12.1 Mitigating Impacts From New Development

Prior to issuance of any building permit, require a written statement confirming payment in full of all applicable developer fees and other requirements lawfully imposed by each school district in which the project is located.

Prior to approval of any land division or other discretionary development permit application for a project which would authorize additional development, consider the impact of such action on each school district in which the project is located. Require feasible mitigation measures permitted by law to reduce any significant impacts on the school system or approve the project on the basis of a statement of overriding considerations.

Prior to approval of any General Plan and/or LCP Amendment, Rezoning, or other legislative action which would authorize additional development to occur as a matter of land use policies, consider the impact of such action on each school district within which the land is located. Either require feasible mitigation measures to reduce any significant impacts on each school district to a level of insignificance, deny the project if such mitigation measures are infeasible, or approve the project on the basis of a statement of overriding conditions. Mitigation measures may include, by way of example only, the reduction of residential densities or the controlled phasing of residential development within attendance areas of the school district having inadequate facilities or services.

7.12.2 Locations of New Schools

Plan for additional new school sites in the following general areas tentatively indicated on the General Plan and Local Coastal Program Land Use and Facilities Maps:

Aptos: a future elementary school in Aptos or La Selva Beach area and a future middle school, Aptos area.

Carbonera (Scotts Valley): a new high school is tentatively proposed to be located at the Kaiser Quarry site.

Live Oak: a new middle school at 17th and Felt, conversion of Del Mar Middle School to an elementary school, and the creation of a new school site of 10 to 15 acres to meet the school needs at General Plan buildout.

Pajaro Valley: a new high school (site undetermined, but likely to be a site in the Harkins Slough or Calabasas Road area); a new Middle School on the St. Francis site; a new Elementary School on the Franich property, Lohr Landmark site and the Calabasas area.

Soquel: new Rancho Soquel Middle School on the Old San Jose Road north of Hilltop.

7.12.3 School Financing

Work in cooperation with school districts to provide a method for financing school facilities necessitated by new residential developments causing conditions of overcrowding.

Programs

a. Develop a review procedure with the school districts to review proposed development projects with regard to school capacity and potential school sites. Utilize the School Facilities Fees justification document, prepared by the school districts, to analyze the impact of proposed development in comparison to the long range facilities plan. (Responsibility: Planning Department, School Districts, Board of Supervisors)

b. Assist the school districts in long-range planning to assess enrollment and facility needs, and to initiate a site identification and acquisition program. Develop a mechanism to preserve and attain planned school sites. (Responsibility: Planning Department, School Districts, Board of Supervisors)

c. Maintain and administer a method by which the payment of fees, the dedication of land, or a combination thereof is required for the approval of all new residential development to mitigate conditions of overcrowding within a school district's attendance area, and/or allocate and limit development approvals to a level commensurate with available school capacity as determined with assistance from the school district. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, School Districts, Planning Department)

d. Coordinate with school districts to share appropriate demographic information to provide a common basis for long-range school and land use planning (Responsibility: Planning Department, School Districts)

e. Consider imposition of additional condition on approval of a subdivision or residential development permit requiring the developer to waive any protest to any community facilities district proposed to be established by a school district under the Mello-Roos Act to provide adequate school facilities, or requiring the developer to participate in any school facilities funding mechanism established by the school district pursuant to Government Code Section 65596 or pursuant to other statuatory authorization then in existence. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, School Districts, Planning Department)

Objective 7.13 School Site Recreation

To expand the potential for community use of school facilities and grounds.

Policy

7.13.1 Community Use of School Facilities
Encourage broad community recreational and cultural use of school facilities by taking full advantage of the role and services of the community schools, the University of California at Santa Cruz, and Cabrillo College as training, recreational, and cultural centers.

Programs

a. Establish cooperative programs between the school districts, Cabrillo College, UCSC, recreation districts, and the Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Services Department to provide facilities and programs for community educational, recreational, and cultural activities. (Responsibility: School Districts, County Parks, Recreation Districts)

(LCP) b. Develop a program in cooperation with school districts to maintain the accessibility of outdoor recreation areas during non-school hours and, where adequate supervision can be provided, to make indoor recreation facilities available to the public without increased financial burden to the school district. (Responsibility: School Districts, County Parks, Recreation Districts)

CHILD CARE

Objective 7.14 Child Care

To ensure that adequate child care facilities and services are provided as an essential public service as part of new development and to alleviate current critical child care shortages.

Policies

7.14.1 Mitigating Impacts From New Development
Review development proposals with respect to their impact on child care; require, where appropriate, that proposed developments provide for mitigation of the impact of the proposed development on the need for child care facilities or services, as a condition of project approval.

7.14.2 Child Care Facilities With Parks
Consider the development of child care facilities within existing and future County parks.

7.14.3 Financing Child Care
Maintain a Child Care Fee for new and expanded development to finance child care facilities and services.

Programs

a. Support child care programs and the Children's Commission of Santa Cruz County in long-range planning to assess enrollment and facility needs, and to initiate a site identification and acquisition program. Develop a mechanism to obtain and preserve planned child care sites. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Human Resources Agency, Board of Supervisors)

b. Develop and administer a method by which the payment of fees, the development of facilities, or a combination thereof is required, as appropriate, to mitigate child care shortages. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, County Administrative Officer, Planning Department, County Counsel, Human Resources Agency)

LIBRARIES

Objective 7.15 Libraries

To support a strong countywide library system with libraries distributed throughout the County in a geographically balanced manner to ensure equal access to information without regard to residence or economic status.

Policies

7.15.1 Siting Libraries

Locate libraries within community centers, adjacent to major commercial centers, or in other areas convenient for public use.

7.15.2 Support and Expansion of Libraries

Support adequate library service in all parts of the County. Plan for facility improvements in the following areas:
Midcounty: a new regional branch in Live Oak, and a new sub-regional facility in Capitola.
Aptos: expand the Aptos Branch to provide sub-regional service to Aptos, Soquel, La Selva Beach and south county.
Freedom/Corralitos: provide a new branch library in south county.
Scotts Valley: provide a new sub-regional branch to serve the San Lorenzo Valley and Scotts Valley.
Felton: provide a new branch at Felton, or provide a significant expansion to existing Ballardi Memorial Library.

7.15.3 Geographical Distribution

Establish and maintain, within the economic capabilities of the County, a geographical distribution of libraries throughout the County based on the standards for service identified in the Plan for the Decade of the 1990s.

Program

a. Implement the Plan for the Decade of the 1990s adopted by the Library Oversight Committee, which includes construction of new branches, expansion of existing branch libraries, and continued investigation of alternative funding sources. (Responsibility: Library Commission, Planning Department, Board of Supervisors)

FIRE PROTECTION

Objective 7.16 Fire Protection

To provide the highest level of fire protection service feasible in the rural areas considering the difficult terrain, disperse settlement patterns, and limited road and water improvements and to provide an urban level of fire service in the urban areas.

Policies

7.16.1 Reviewing New Development for Fire Protection
Require review of all new developments, including building permits on existing parcels of record, by the County Fire Marshal or local fire agency, and require adequate access, water supply and location with respect to fire stations and Critical Fire Hazard Areas in order to ensure adequate fire protection.

7.16.2 Development to be Consistent With Fire Hazards Policies
Allow development approvals only if adequate water supply, access, and response time for fire protection can be made available in accordance with the Fire Hazards policies found in section 6.5.

7.16.3 Future Fire Station Sites
Ensure ease of access in and out of all fire stations. Plan for and continue development of future fire station sites in the following general areas:
Aptos: Redwood Drive off Cathedral at Monte Toyon
Aptos Hills: Day Valley Area, Larkin Valley
Bonny Doon: Empire Grade corridor
Carbonera: Graham Hill Showgrounds
Eureka Canyon: Upper Eureka Canyon/Highland Way by Nisene Marks State Park in the vicinity of Ormsby Road
La Selva: Seascape Uplands
San Lorenzo Valley: Boulder Creek Country Club area, Big Basin and Jamison, and the Redwood Grove area
Skyline: Riva Ridge (W Highway 17 & Summit) and Bear Creek at Skyline
Summit: Loma Prieta station needs rebuilding/relocation

7.16.4 Annexation to Scotts Valley Fire Protection District
Future Development outside of the Scotts Valley Fire Protection District boundaries, but inside of its sphere of influence, should be required, as a condition of project approval, to annex into the district.

Programs

a. Support measures to improve the training and capability of fire protection agencies. (Responsibility: Fire Agencies, Fire Marshal, Board of Supervisors)

b. Identify and review on a yearly basis, problem fire protection areas, both urban and rural, caused by limitations of water, roads, equipment, hazardous vegetation, etc., and establish necessary improvement programs, density regulations, and site development standards. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Fire Agencies, County Fire Marshal, Board of Supervisors)

c. Review the objectives established in the 1990 Santa Cruz County Fire Department Master Plan for consistency with the General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan and develop an integrated planning program for fire protection. (Responsibility: County Fire Marshal, Board of Supervisors, Planning Department)

d. Support the 911 emergency alarm system through programs to eliminate duplicate street names and to correct inconsistent house numbers for existing and new development. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Fire Agencies, Fire Marshal, Board of Supervisors)

e. Review and update, in coordination with the fire protection agencies, water pressure/volume standards for adequate fire protection for various urban and rural levels of development. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Fire Agencies, Fire Marshal)

f. Investigate funding sources to develop and implement a financing strategy which the fire districts can use to construct needed fire facilities and increase personnel levels to accommodate General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan buildout population. (Responsibility: Fire Districts, Fire Marshal)

POLICE PROTECTION

Objective 7.17 Police Protection

To provide the highest level of police protection services to County residents and property in the unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County.

Policies

7.17.1 Financing of New Facilities
Develop and implement a financing strategy which the County can use to construct needed police facilities.

7.17.2 Maintaining Adequate Levels of Service
Provide adequate levels of police service to protect County residents and businesses.

7.17.3 Cost Effectiveness
Support all efforts directed at providing the best level of police protection services at the least cost.

Programs

a. Identify future sites for the construction of a more centralized Sheriff-Coroner's Office to accommodate the Administration Bureau, Patrol and Investigations Division, and the Coroner's Office, in conjunction with a County Communications Center and/or vehicle/equipment service center. (Responsibility: Sheriff-Coroner, Office of Emergency Services, County Administrative Office, Planning Department)

b. Review existing levels of service for patrol deputies as it relates to population increases and changes in areas to be served. (Responsibility: Sheriff-Coroner, County Administrative Office, Planning Department)

c. Investigate funding sources to develop and implement a financing strategy which the County can use to construct needed police facilities and finance operations towards a goal of providing one officer per 1,000 residents. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, County Sheriff, County Administrative Office)

WATER SUPPLY

Objective 7.18a Domestic Water Service

(LCP) To ensure a dependable supply of high quality domestic water to meet the needs of communities that obtain water service from municipal water systems, County water districts and small water systems.

Objective 7.18b Water Supply Limitations

(LCP) To ensure that the level of development permitted is supportable within the limits of the County's available water supplies and within the constraints of community-wide goals for environmental quality.

Objective 7.18c Water Conservation

(LCP) To maximize the County's water conservation potential through a coordinated program with water purveyors and water management agencies involving public education, financial incentives to conserve, voluntary and mandatory conservation measures, retrofit programs, run-off management and water waste regulations and enforcement.

Policies

7.18.1 Linking Growth to Water Supplies

(LCP) Coordinate with all water purveyors and water management agencies to ensure that land use and growth management decisions are linked directly to the availability of adequate, sustainable public and private water supplies.

7.18.2 Written Commitments Confirming Water Service Required for Permits

(LCP) Concurrent with project application, require a written commitment from the water purveyor that verifies the capability of the system to serve the proposed development. Projects shall not be approved in areas that do not have a proven, adequate water supply. A written commitment is a letter from the purveyor guaranteeing that the required level of service for the project will be available prior to the issuance of building permits, or in the case of a subdivision, prior to filing the Final Map or Parcel Map. The County decision making body shall not approve any development project unless it determines that such project has adequate water supply available.

7.18.3 Impacts of New Development on Water Purveyors

(LCP) Review all new development proposals to assess impacts on municipal water systems, County water districts, or small water systems. Require that either adequate service is available or that the proposed development provide for mitigation of its impacts as a condition of project approval.

7.18.4 Improvement of Water Systems

(LCP) Support water system improvement programs for storage, treatment and distribution facilities to meet necessary water supply and fire suppression requirements.

7.18.5 Groundwater Management

(LCP) Promote water management in the Pajaro Valley and Santa Margarita groundwater basins and the Soquel-Aptos area to protect the long-term security of water supplies and to safeguard groundwater quality and maintain stream baseflows.

7.18.6 Water Conservation Requirements

(LCP) Utilize the best available methods for water conservation in new developments. Work with all water purveyors to implement demand management programs and water conservation measures. In areas where shortage or groundwater overdraft has been substantiated by the water purveyor, require water conservation measures for new and existing uses. Require the use of water-saving devices such as ultra low-flow fixtures and native drought-resistant planting in new development projects to promote ongoing water conservation.

7.18.7 Water Reuse

(LCP) Encourage the reuse and recycling of water where feasible and where reuse will not have a negative impact on public health or the environment, including the use of greywater systems, and recycling of irrigation water for irrigation purposes as acceptable to Environmental Health Services, State Department of Health Services and Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Programs

(LCP) a. In accordance with state law, develop and implement a Landscape Water Conservation or similar ordinance to maximize the efficiency of outdoor water use in specified development. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Planning Commission, Water Advisory Commission, Board of Supervisors)

b. Establish and maintain an active program of public education and other measures for water conservation. (Responsibility: Water Advisory Commission, Water Purveyors, Planning Department, PVWMA)

(LCP) c. Continue to monitor the adequacy of available water supplies to support projected development and review and amend the County General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan periodically to ensure available water supply to serve projected levels of development without adverse impacts to groundwater resources or streams. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Planning Commission, PVWMA, Board of Supervisors, Water Purveyors)

d. Participate in the development of surface and groundwater management programs to ensure the availability of an adequate quantity and quality of domestic water supplies for urban and suburban areas. (Responsibility: Planning Department, , Water Purveyors, PVWMA, Public Works)

e. Administer standards for water supply distribution and storage and for urban levels of fire protection in accordance with the County Design Criteria. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Fire Agencies, Public Works, Planning Department)

f. Administer standards for safe and adequate water supplies for public and individual water systems under County jurisdiction, and coordinate water system and land use approvals. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, Planning Department)

g. Consider amending the County's well ordinance to require extraction reporting for all medium and large water wells. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, PVWMA, Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) h. Administer state and local standards for greywater systems for domestic use. (Responsibility: Environmental Health)

(LCP) i. Evaluate the impacts of allowing additional wells in aquifers where overdraft is occurring. Develop criteria to regulate new well development, if necessary. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors, Water Management Agencies, Water Purveyors, PVWMA, Flood Control and Water Conservation District)

(LCP) j. Review and evaluate proposals by water agencies to develop supplemental sources of water supply (such as wastewater reclamation, water conservation, north coast groundwater, or surface water development) to reverse overdraft, seawater intrusion and other basin problems wherever they are occurring. The development and use of these sources must be consistent with General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan resource protection and development policies. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Board of Supervisors, Flood Control, PVWMA)

(LCP) k. Continue to monitor seawater intrusion in the Pajaro Valley, Soquel area and along the North Coast. (Responsibility: PVWMA, Water Purveyors, Flood Control)

(LCP) l. Work cooperatively with the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency and affected jurisdictions to implement the Basin Management Plan to alleviate overdraft conditions in the Pajaro Valley. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Flood Control Zone 4, PVWMA, Board of Supervisors)

m. Work cooperatively with the appropriate water purveyors and agencies to fully implement a groundwater Basing Management Plan for the Santa Margarita aqifer system in the San Lorenzo Valley and the Scotts Valley area, or seek other appropriate ways to achieve responsible groundwater management. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Planning Department, Flood Control, Water Advisory Commission, Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) n. Cooperate with state and federal agencies in addressing groundwater basin overdraft problems and seek any available state or federal assistance to support local groundwater management programs. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Flood Control, PVWMA, Board of Supervisors)

o. Coordinate monitoring efforts with water purveyors to provide comprehensive information on the quantity and quality of surface and groundwater resources. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Flood Control, PVWMA)

(LCP) p. Provide public education regarding the need for groundwater resource management. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, PVWMA)

(LCP) q. Seek supplemental funding for the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to update the County Water Master Plan, or undertake a similar comprehensive water planning process to address the following issues:

(1) A specific implementation plan designating agencies responsible for key actions and a timeline for implementation.
(2) Reduction of withdrawals from overdrafted aquifers by reduced pumping, water conservation and other appropriate means to eliminate the long-term overdraft of groundwater aquifers.
(3) Actions to protect against seawater intrusion and other water quality problems, including investigating the feasibility of relocating wells near to the coast to sites farther inland.
(4) Aquifer recharge possibilities such as recharge area protection, spreading basins in recharge areas, and/or injection wells. Inventory potential sources of contamination.
(5) An updated assessment of proposed project yields based on adequate protection of instream flows and other environmental factors.
(6) A timetable showing when new water supply developments could be on-line, what level of development could be supported by the projected yield of the project, and the projected life of the project compared to its cost.
(7) Methods of financing new water source development to include assessment of all beneficiaries.
(8) Reservation of a portion of existing and new water supply capacity in order to assure the potential for development of priority uses in the Coastal Zone.
(9) Potential for water conservation and means of effectively implementing a water conservation and demand management program.
(10) Development of countywide interties and options for conjunctive management of surface and groundwater supplies.
(11) Effects of a planned reduction of the buildout level of development where water availability is limited.

(Responsibility: Planning Department, Water Purveyors, Flood Control Zone 4, PVWMA)

r. Assist the water purveyors to develop additional water supplies with sufficient capacity to serve General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan buildout population without creating overdraft of groundwater basins. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Public Works, Planning Department)

s. Assist in the development of additional water supplies, additional recharge, or offsetting amounts of water conservation for the Pajaro Valley basin with sufficient capacity to serve the anticipated population increase at General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan buildout. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Public Works, Planning Department)

WASTEWATER

Objective 7.19 Sanitation Facilities Within the Urban Services Line

(LCP) To provide necessary and adequate sanitation services to areas of urban development within the Urban Services Line based on a trunk-line sewage collection, treatment and disposal system.

Policies

7.19.1 Sewer Service to New Development

(LCP) Concurrent with project application, require a written commitment from the service district. A written commitment is a letter, with appropriate conditions, from the service district guaranteeing that the required level of service for the project will be available prior to issuance of building permits, or in the case of a subdivision, prior to filing the Final Map or Parcel Map. The County decision making body shall not approve any development project unless it determines that such project has adequate sewage treatment plant capacity.

7.19.2 Development Linkage to Downstream Sewer System Improvements

Require new development to pay its full fair share of downstream sewer system improvements needed. In areas where cumulative sewer capacity is a problem, as indicated by the Department of Public Works, require all development to make required downstream improvements or be appropriately limited until downstream improvements are made.

7.19.3 Sizing Sewer Facilities

Require developers, including public agencies, to locate and size new collection systems to best serve all areas inside the Urban Services Line.

7.19.4 Sewer System Connections in Carbonera

Prohibit any additional connections to the existing package sewage treatment plant and collector system within County Service Area No. 10 (Rolling Woods) until a trunk line connection is made to the Scotts Valley sanitation system.

7.19.5 Sydney Avenue Sewer Bypass

Expand the capacity of the Sydney Avenue sewer bypass to serve existing development and to accommodate increased wastewater flows, consistent with General Plan and LCP Land Use designations.

Programs

a. Implement a phased program to upgrade sewer lines and treatment facilities within the Urban Services Line to serve existing and planned populations. (Responsibility: Santa Cruz County Sanitation District, Freedom Sanitation District, City of Santa Cruz and Watsonville Public Works Departments, County Public Works, Local Agency Formation Commission)

b. Consider all lands within the sphere of influence when sizing downstream sewer lines for the Freedom County Sanitation District. (Responsibility: Freedom County Sanitation District Board of Directors)

c. Prepare and implement a detailed-sewer improvement plan for the timely provision of public sewer services to the Buena Vista Road area, west of the Watsonville Airport. (Responsibility: Freedom County Sanitation District, Board of Supervisors)

d. Continue to monitor urban sanitation facilities and make needed corrections to minimize odor problems. (Responsibility: Sanitation Districts, Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

Objective 7.20 Sanitation Facilities Within the Rural Services Line

(LCP) To provide for adequate sewage collection, treatment, and disposal on a community basis for areas within the Rural Services Line.

Policies

7.20.1 Community Sewage Disposal Systems, Within the Rural Services Line

(LCP) Allow new development to occur at designated urban densities within the Rural Services Line (RSL) where served by a community sewage disposal system and where operated by a public agency or an operator under contract to a public agency. Community sewage disposal systems should be built in such a way as to allow potential tertiary treatment and reclamation for irrigation, and shall be sized to serve only the buildout densities for lands within the Rural Services Line.

7.20.2 Rural Services Line Areas Without Community Sewage Disposal Systems

(LCP) Require new development within the Rural Services Line to meet individual sewage disposal system standards set forth in the Sewage Disposal ordinance unless served by a community sewage disposal system as described in 7.20.1. Densities shall be calculated using suburban land use designation standards until a community sewage disposal system is provided, except that school employee housing and affordable rental housing in the Public Facility Zone District and farmworker housing projects (all project types defined in SCCC 13.10) in agricultural zones are quasi-public or agricultural land uses and are not subject to the suburban residential density limit. Such projects, if located on a site with an individual septic system, are subject to approval of the proposed septic system by the Environmental Health Division of the County's Health Services Agency. *(Amended by Resolution 274-2019)*

Programs

a. Evaluate the feasibility of newly evolving technology to provide small community sewage disposal systems in a manner more environmentally and economically acceptable and more easily maintained than available systems. (Responsibility: Public Works, Planning Department, Environmental Health)

b. Utilize County Service Area 12 and other financing mechanisms as appropriate to determine the feasibility of community sewage disposal systems in designated Rural Services Line areas of the San Lorenzo Valley to serve existing and projected levels of development so as to prevent environmental degradation. (Responsibility: Public Works, Board of Supervisors, Environmental Health)

c. Continue to monitor community sewage disposal systems outside the Urban Services Line and make needed corrections to minimize odor problems. (Responsibility: Public Works, Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors)

North Coast:

(LCP) d. Maintain the Davenport sanitation facilities to meet state and federal discharge requirements. (Responsibility: Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

Objective 7.21 Sanitation Facilities in Rural Areas

(LCP) To ensure adequate maintenance and operation of rural sanitation facilities based on individual sewage disposal systems to prevent environmental degradation from development not served by public sewage disposal systems.

Policies

7.21.1 Rural Development on Individual Sewage Disposal Systems

Plan for intensities of use and density of development to be limited to those levels supportable by individual sewage disposal systems where public sanitary sewer systems are not available.

7.21.2 Minimum Parcel Sizes and Maximum Densities With Individual Sewage Disposal Systems

(LCP) Where individual sewage disposal systems are used, require a minimum parcel size to be based on the Rural Density Matrix for the land use designation, but in no case smaller than one net acre for parcels created from new land divisions. Allow a maximum density based on the Rural Density Matrix and not to exceed one dwelling unit per net acre for such parcels.

7.21.3 Maximum Slopes for Individual Sewage Disposal Systems

Prohibit the placement of individual sewage disposal systems on sites with slopes greater than 30 percent (except system repairs on slopes up to 50%) to prevent downhill surfacing of effluent from sewage disposal drainage fields.

7.21.4 Alternative Sewage Disposal Systems

(LCP) Allow alternative individual sewage disposal systems, which provide an environmentally acceptable level of treatment, as an alternative to conventional individual sewage disposal systems in rural areas. Such alternative systems must be approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the County Environmental Health Services.

7.21.5 Community Sewage Disposal Systems Outside the Urban Service Line and Rural Services Line

(LCP) Prohibit the use of community sewage disposal systems (including package sewer plants) outside the Urban Services Line and Rural Services Line except as follows:

(a) Allow the continued operation of existing systems; and

(b) Allow new systems in developed areas to correct existing disposal problems where individual sewage disposal systems are not suitable; and

(c) Allow new systems to serve 100% affordable rental housing projects, Employee Housing Act (EHA) projects and Affordable Rental Farmworker Housing (ARFH) Projects and Streamlined EHA Projects, both as defined in SCCC 13.10, public facility/institutional uses such as schools, and to serve school employee housing as provided in General Plan Policy 2.21.1 on sites owned by a public or private school.

Allow systems under conditions (a), (b) and (c) only where approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, LAFCO, Public Works, Environmental Health Services; and where operated by a public agency or private contractor to a public agency or a school, or for EHA and ARFH projects where the property owner enters into a recorded agreement with the County to provide for ongoing maintenance of the community sewage disposal system. *(Amended by Resolution 274-2019)*

7.21.6 Sanitary Service Connections Outside Urban Services Line and Rural Services Line

(LCP) Allow sewer service connections from community sewage disposal systems to areas outside the Urban Services Line or Rural Services Line and size line extensions only to serve the following:

(a) public facilities/institutional uses such as schools, including school employee rental housing, or

(b) EHA, Streamlined EHA, and ARFH Projects permitted pursuant to SCCC 13.10, or

(c) existing development that conforms to the General Plan land use designation, and which have failing septic systems not able to be repaired, or

(d) one existing dwelling unit per existing parcel of record which has a failing septic system not able to be repaired.

In no case shall such connections allow for additional density beyond that allowed by (a) through (d) above. *(Amended by Resolution 274-2019)*

7.21.7 Sanitary Sewer Connections – St. Francis Subdivision

Allow sanitary sewer service to those parcels located within the existing Sphere of Influence of the Salsipuedes Sanitary Sewer District in the area of the St. Francis Subdivision (the area extending along the west side of Highway 152 between the County Fairgrounds and Casserly Road). *(Added by Resolution 390-1998)*

Programs

a. Maintain the Sewage Disposal ordinance and operate County Service Area 12 to oversee and promote septic system inspection, maintenance and improvement to prevent environmental degradation. Give first priority to those areas of failing septic systems or high concentration of older development in stream valleys or where lots sizes are predominantly small. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors) (See section 5.5, Watershed Protection, program c.)

b. Consider the use of small-scale community facilities and/or on-site wastewater disposal zone improvement districts as methods to deal with the soil and water table conditions which severely hamper the functioning of septic systems in the Amesti Road area. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors)

c. Continue to monitor community sewage disposal systems outside the Urban Services Line and make needed corrections to minimize odor problems.

Objective 7.22 Wastewater Reclamation and Energy Conservation

(LCP) To maximize the energy efficiency and potential for energy conversion and resource recovery of sewage treatment in Santa Cruz County.

Policies

7.22.1 Wastewater Reclamation and Reuse Projects
Promote the reclamation and reuse of energy, water and nutrients in wastewater management, and give funding priority to reclamation and reuse projects in capital expenditures for wastewater management.

7.22.2 Wastewater Reclamation for Agricultural Use
Support the concept of building and upgrading sewage treatment facilities capable of producing reusable water, and the transporting of wastewater south for reclamation and agricultural use within the Pajaro Valley, when financially feasible, in order to reserve the limited groundwater primarily for domestic purposes.

7.22.3 Use of Low Energy Gravity Transfer Systems
(LCP) Where feasible, encourage sewage disposal systems in new development to utilize natural gravity flows to the maximum extent, reducing the energy costs associated with pumping.

7.22.4 Industrial Wastewater
Encourage private business and industry to initiate reuse of industrial waste water; require separation of heavy metals and/or toxic pollutants from wastewater before discharge into sewage lines in order to facilitate sewage conversion for energy, nutrients, and water reclamation.

Programs

a. Develop criteria to facilitate selection of the most energy-efficient and cost-effective sewage treatment systems, including consideration of potential cost-offsets for water supply, soil improvement, and environmental pollution. (Responsibility: Energy Commission, Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

b. Develop and implement resource recovery and energy conversion programs where environmentally safe, energy-efficient and cost-effective for existing sewage treatment facilities, or for remodeling and/or expansion of existing treatment facilities, including consideration of such processes as:
(1) Biological (e.g., aquacells) or hybrid treatment;
(2) Methane gas recovery for on-site use and/or external markets;
(3) Nutrient recovery for fertilizer;
(4) Water reclamation for groundwater recharge, irrigation, or industrial processes;
(5) Sludge reclamation by vermiculture.
(Responsibility: Energy Commission, State Department of Health Services, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Public Works)

DRAINAGE

Objective 7.23 Flood Control and Drainage

To provide necessary flood control facilities to prevent flooding and consequent damage to property and improvements.

Policies

7.23.1 New Development

Require new discretionary development projects to provide both on and off-site improvements to alleviate drainage problems before considering on-site detention of storm water. Require runoff levels to be maintained at predevelopment rates for a minimum design storm as determined by Public Works Design Criteria to reduce downstream flood hazards and analyze potential flood overflow problems, where applicable. Require on-site retention and percolation of increased runoff from new development in Water Supply Watersheds and Primary Groundwater Recharge Areas, and in other areas as feasible.

7.23.2 Minimizing Impervious Surfaces

Require new development to limit coverage of lots by parking areas and other impervious surfaces, in order to minimize the amount of post-development surface runoff.

7.23.3 On-Site Stormwater Detention

Where it is not possible to alleviate drainage problems through on and off-site improvements required by 7.23.1, require on-site stormwater detention sufficient to maintain, at a minimum, post-development peak flows at pre-development levels for the selected design rainstorm for all development projects greater than one acre in area, and to alleviate current drainage problems, if feasible. When on-site detention is used, the development projects shall be conditioned to ensure ongoing operation and mainteneance of the detention basins.

7.23.4 Downstream Impact Assements

For any proposed development projects within the County Urban Services Line, require the applicant to conduct a downstream impact assessment and submit an engineered drainage plan. The assessment should require the design of any improvements needed to upgrade the storm drain system such that local flooding due to insufficient capacities would be eliminated for the appropriate design rainstorm.

7.23.5 Control Surface Runoff

(LCP) Require new development to minimize the discharge of pollutants into surface water drainage by providing the following improvements or similar methods which provide equal or greater runoff control:

(a) Construct curbs and gutters on arterials, collectors and locals consistent with adopted urban street designs; and

(b) Construct oil, grease and silt traps for parking lots, land divisions or commercial and industrial development. Condition development project approvals to provide ongoing maintenance of oil, grease and silt traps.

Programs

a. Provide administrative and engineering drainage services to supervise, maintain, upgrade and replace drainage and flood control facilities. Implement capital improvement projects to improve stormwater drainage and alleviate flooding conditions in accordance with the 5-Year Capital Improvement Program. (Responsibility: Public Works, Flood Control and Water Conservation District)

b. Develop and implement a comprehensive countywide Storm Drainage Plan. The plan should include specific priorities for solving existing drainage problems, detailed information on each drainage basin, and provisions for projected development, and should address the natural saltwater balance of coastal lagoons and marshes. (Responsibility: Public Works, Planning Department, Santa Cruz County Water Conservation and Flood Control Districts)

c. In conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other responsible federal, state and local agencies, continue to examine flooding problems and potential projects to help reduce the frequency and extent of flood damages along the Pajaro River, Corralitos and Soquel Creeks. (Responsibility: Public Works, Flood Control Zone 7, City of Watsonville, Monterey County, Planning Department, Board of Supervisors)

d. Develop standards for amounts of impervious pavements to be allowed in projects. Investigate the feasibility of using pervious pavements to enhance drainage and percolation of storm water. (Responsibility: Public Works, Planning Department)

e. Research and test detention and percolation ponds and silt and grease traps to determine their effectiveness and maintenance requirements. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Public Works)

f. Follow the guidelines in the Pajaro River Corridor and Lagoon Management Plans to reduce the risk of flooding to Watsonville and surrounding areas and improve environmental quality of the riparian corridor. (Responsibility: Pajaro River Task Force, Public Works, Flood Control Zone 7, Army Corps of Engineers, City of Watsonville, Board of Supervisors, Monterey County)

g. Review site specific recommendations in the Urban Watersheds Study in connection with the design of drainage improvements and the review of development projects within the Urban Services Line. Incorporate suggested restoration and enhancement measures where practical. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Public Works, Redevelopment Agency)

INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

This section is a summary of the County's Source Reduction and Recycling Element required by state law. Additional background information and more detailed policies, programs and technical data are included as well as related County solid waste management documents.

Objective 7.24a Integrated Waste Management System

To conserve natural resources and energy and extend the lifespan of local landfills by instituting an integrated waste management system that consists of source reduction, recycling, composting, selective transformation and landfill disposal and that promotes waste reduction and maximizes the recovery of materials from the wastestream.

Objective 7.24b Financing Waste Management

To maintain the economic viability of integrated waste management systems within the County through user-based and benefit-related funding and through capture of the highest economic value of recovered materials, and to support the local economy through local manufacturing use of secondary materials recovered from the County wastestream.

Objective 7.24c Materials Recovery and Source Reduction

To meet, and exceed where feasible, the 25 percent (by 1995) and the 50 percent (by 2000) landfill diversion mandates established by the State Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 through source reduction, recycling and composting.

Policies

7.24.1 Materials Recovery
Establish, in conformance with state law, materials recovery through recycling, reuse and composting, as the primary and fundamental strategy of solid waste management by the County, with landfill disposal as a secondary and essential component. Designate materials recovery and reuse projects as a funding priority in allocating capital expenditures for solid waste management.

7.24.2 Materials Acquisition and Handling Practices
Require all County departments to develop materials acquisition and handling practices which reduce the amount of waste generated in daily operations. Encourage, through education and technical assistance, all private and public developments to establish similar materials handling practices.

7.24.3 Support of Business
Recognize and support businesses which deal in reusable discards as important to the local economy and to County landfill diversion goals.

7.24.4 Product Packaging Reform
Use education programs, and consider mandatory phase-outs or bans, to eliminate products with non-recyclable, non-biodegradable or excessive packaging.

Programs

a. Develop and implement specific source reduction programs, as described in the County of Santa Cruz Source Reduction and Recycling Element, to address purchasing practices, public awareness, source reduction audits, packaging reduction, materials exchange, surplus food redistribution, economic incentives, reusables and on-site composting. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Planning Department, General Services, County Administrative Office, Public Works)

b. Maintain an on-going integrated waste management planning process to include long-range planning, program development and administrative over-sight, program, technology and legislative monitoring and public participation. (Responsibility: Planning Department)

c. Review and monitor zoning and other land use regulations to ensure compatibility with integrated waste management programs and facilities. (Responsibility: Planning Department)

d. Support state and federal legislation to provide for energy-efficient and cost-effective reclamation and/or reuse of solid waste materials. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

RECYCLING

Policies

7.24.5 Recycling Opportunities for County Residents
Provide the opportunity for recycling to all residents of the unincorporated County in a convenient manner to maximize participation.

7.24.6 Recycling Opportunities and Assistance for Businesses
Provide recycling opportunities for all businesses and other non-residential uses of land in the unincorporated County through the establishment of collection systems and technical assistance to address on-site needs and conditions.

7.24.7 Providing a Variety of Recycling Collection Services
Provide a variety of recycling collection services, including curbside dropoff, buyback and source-separated collection through publicly provided service and through support of non-profit and private independent collection businesses.

7.24.8 Meeting State and Local Landfill Diversion Goals
Consider mandatory recycling or material-specific landfill disposal prohibitions if state and local landfill diversion goals are not met through the use of voluntary programs.

7.24.9 Storage Requirement for Recyclable Materials
Require all projects, except single family dwellings, to provide sufficient and accessible space for the storage and collection of recyclable materials separate from, and in addition to, space for refuse storage and collection. Encourage owners of existing buildings to provide such space, where feasible.

7.24.10 Small Scale Recycling Collection Facilities
Recognize small scale recycling collection facilities as a compatible accessory use in all land use designations, subject to appropriate zoning standards.

Program

a. Develop and implement the specific recycling programs identified in the County of Santa Cruz Source Reduction and Recycling Element, including residential, commercial, industrial, institutional collection and general public dropoff at County solid waste facilities. (Responsibility: Planning Department, County Administrative Office, Public Works)

COMPOSTING

Policies

7.24.11 On-Site Yard Waste Composting

Allow properly managed on-site yard waste composting for materials generated on-site in all land use designations. Provide support for on-site composting through education and technical assistance.

7.24.12 Yard Waste Collection

Provide separate collection of yard waste, for off-site composting, from residential and non-residential generators and phase in collection of food waste and other compostable material when feasible. Require new development to provide sufficient space for separate storage of yard waste for composting.

7.24.13 Compost Mulches for Landscaping

Require all County facilities and new development to use compost/mulch for landscaping for landfill diversion and water conservation purposes.

7.24.14 Composting As An Agricultural-Related Activity

Recognize composting as an agriculture-related activity and allow public or private commercial compost operations on land designated Agriculture or Commercial Agriculture with an approved development permit.

Programs

a. Establish a large scale composting operation to process yard waste initially and subsequently to process food waste and other organic materials when economically feasible. (Responsibility: County Administrative Office, Planning Department, Public Works)

b. Develop incentives and a technical assistance program to encourage existing development to use County-produced compost/mulch for landscaping to promote landfill diversion and water conservation purposes. Make these incentives and assistance available to new development to encourage its use of County-produced compost and mulch. (Responsibility: County Administrative Office, Planning Department, Public Works)

PROCESSING FACILITIES FOR RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING

Policies

7.24.15 Siting of Public Processing Facilities

Provide publicly owned facilities of sufficient size, location and design to meet the processing requirements for all County-sponsored recycling and composting programs and for local city-sponsored programs choosing to participate. Ensure sufficient capacity and make said facilities available to process materials from local non-profit and private recycling and composting businesses

7.24.16 Planning and Operating Processing Facilities

Establish multi-jurisdictional and public-private cooperation as a primary principle in planning and operating recycling and composting processing facilities.

7.24.17 Designating Processing Facilities

Identify publicly owned recycling/composting facilities with a Public Facility land use designation and ensure compatible land uses on adjacent property.

MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Policies

7.24.18 Requiring the Use of Recycled Materials

Require County use of products made from recycled materials such as oil, paper products, glass, metal and plastic products, where feasible and cost-effective.

7.24.19 Manufacturing Products Made From Recovered Materials

Provide technical assistance and expedited processing for development which will result in the manufacture of products made from secondary materials recovered from County-sponsored recycling or composting collection programs. Consider permit and other fee waivers where appropriate.

Programs

a. Establish guidelines for applying economic incentives in the form of permit and other fee waivers for development programs which will result in the manufacture of products made from secondary materials recovered from County-sponsored recycling or composting collection programs. (Responsibility: Planning Department, County Administrative Office)

b. Establish economic development programs with public and private sector input to identify, create, support and promote local/regional end use market opportunities for materials collected through local recycling programs. (Responsibility: Planning Department, County Administrative Office)

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

Policy

7.24.20 Materials Recovery and Processing Programs

Materials recovery and processing programs shall include a public education and information component to ensure public awareness and understanding of program participation requirements, program objectives and accomplishments and program costs and benefits.

Programs

a. Develop and implement an ongoing program of public education and information to address specific materials recovery programs, topical issues, and broader issues of costs/benefits and resource conservation, affecting materials recovery and integrated waste management goals and objectives. (Responsibility: Planning Department)

b. Develop and implement, coordinated with other local jurisdictions, programs for educational outreach to local schools. Work with the County Office of Education to establish locally relevant curricula addressing materials recovery, resource an energy conservation and integrated waste management. (Responsibility: Planning Department)

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Objective 7.25a Refuse Collection

To protect public health and safety through the provision of efficient and economically reasonable collection services for as many sources of waste generation as practical.

Objective 7.25b Refuse Disposal

To provide sanitary landfills within Santa Cruz County for the disposal of solid wastes in a manner and location which protects the public health, safety and welfare of the local citizenry and which protects the natural environments and resources of the county.

Policies

7.25.1 Requiring Space For Refuse Collection
Require all new projects, except single family dwellings, to provide sufficient and accessible space for the storage and collection of refuse separate from, and in addition to, space for recyclable materials collection.

7.25.2 Recyclable vs. Refuse Contracts
Ensure that solid waste collection contracts maintain a distinction between recyclable materials and refuse.

7.25.3 Economic Incentives For Recycling
Establish a solid waste collection rate structure which provides economic incentives for recycling more and disposing less.

7.25.4 Buena Vista Landfill
Continue the use of the Buena Vista Landfill for landfill disposal and the Ben Lomond Transfer Station for solid waste transfer to Buena Vista. Utilize disposal methods and diversion practices at the Buena Vista Landfill to extend the landfill lifespan as long as possible.

7.25.5 Land Use Compatibility With Waste Disposal
Ensure compatibility of land uses adjacent to County solid waste disposal and transfer facilities through zoning and the land use permit process.

7.25.6 Landfills and Environmental Protection
Ensure protection of the local environment, including air, groundwater and surface water resources through proper landfill design, construction, operation and on-going environmental monitoring.

7.25.7 Hazardous Wastes and Environmental Damaging Compounds in Landfills
Prohibit the disposal of radioactive waste, hazardous waste and ozone depleting compounds in County landfills.

7.25.8 Recyclable Materials in Landfills

Consider adoption of landfill disposal bans for specific recyclable or compostable materials where necessary to achieve County materials recovery and landfill diversion goals.

7.25.9 Access to Landfills and Materials Recovery Facilities

Continue to provide access to individual self-haul vehicles either at the Ben Lomond Transfer Station, the Buena Vista Landfill or at future Materials Recovery Facilities for refuse disposal, household hazardous waste dropoff and recycling and other materials recovery.

7.25.10 Incineration of Materials

Allow very limited incineration of selected materials, such as wood chips or tires, only where air quality standards are met as a supplement to materials recovery options, or where such options are not economically or technically feasible and not precluded in the future.

7.25.11 Methane Gas

Develop and implement a program for the recovery of landfill methane gas for conversion to electricity or direct use as a fuel.

7.25.12 Reuse of Closed Landfill Sites

Provide for rehabilitation and reuse of closed landfill sites consistent with environmental protection requirements; consider recreational or agricultural uses for closed sites, based on surrounding land uses. Rehabilitation shall include mitigation of resource degradation.

7.25.13 Refuse Collection Standards

Maintain consistent standards of collection and ensure availability of collection service throughout the unincorporated County.

ENERGY FACILITIES

Objective 7.26 Electrical Distribution System

(LCP) To improve the reliability and aesthetic quality of the electrical energy distribution system in order to promote public health and safety, environmental protection, and resource conservation in the operation of existing or new energy production or distribution systems.

(Also see section 5.10 - Visual Resources.)

Policies

7.26.1 Undergrounding Lines

(LCP) Require all new power line distribution systems and all services to new development to be placed underground.

7.26.2 Protecting Scenic Quality

(LCP) Discourage new high-voltage overhead transmission line corridors that impinge upon the scenic quality of the County and may pose a health hazard. Consider placing existing transmission lines underground.

7.26.3 Recreational Use of Utility Rights-of-Way

Encourage the use of utility rights-of-way for bikeways and hiking paths where appropriately located and where shown to be not hazardous to users.

7.26.4 Submittal Requirements for Energy Facilities

(LCP) Require that the following information be submitted as a part of any request for amendment of the General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan to permit energy facilities:

- The location of oil and gas wells on the plot plan.
- Include the maximum consolidation of facilities including consolidation with other operators.
- Plans detailing grading required for pad and road construction.
- Contingency plan for oil and toxic substances spillage indicating the location and type of cleanup equipment available, the response time required for deployment of the equipment, and the designation of management responsibility. The information must demonstrate that the cleanup, disposition of wastes, and reporting procedures are fully adequate to provide effective containment of any spillage without significant damage to coastal resources for the maximum spillage predicted, based on weather conditions equal to 50 percent of the "worst case" weather conditions predicted.

7.26.5 Criteria For LCP Amendments For Energy Facilities

(LCP) Establish the following criteria for amendments to the General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan for permitting the location of energy facilities in addition to stated LCP policies:

- Adequate infrastructure and public services are available including, but not limited to, water, sewer, fire protection, road capacity, law enforcement and medical services.
- The use would provide full protection of sensitive habitat areas, commercial fishing, recreational and agricultural uses.
- The use would be visually compatible with and have minimum disruption of viewsheds.
- Consistency with federal, state, and local air quality regulations.

7.26.6 Maintenance and Repair of Utility Facilities in the Coastal Zone

(LCP) Allow utility repair or maintenance activities that do not result in an addition, or enlargement or expansion of, the utility facility. Permits may be required where methods of repair and maintenance involve a risk of substantial adverse environmental impact, and where repair activities take place in wetland areas.

7.26.7 Community Energy Systems

(LCP) Allow the development of "Community Energy Systems" in locations where compatible with adjacent land use and with adequate mitigation of noise, emissions, and visual impacts.

7.26.8 Reusable Energy Sources

Consider the development of municipal solar utilities and other financing mechanisms which increase public access to renewable energy sources and provide opportunities for small-scale, decentralized local facilities and controls.

Programs

a. Continue implementation of underground utility districts for the rural village centers and urban areas to place utilities underground. (Responsibility: Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

b. Maintain an ordinance requiring undergrounding utilities for new development. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Public Works, Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors)

c. Investigate the potential for development and financing large-scale and small-scale renewable energy sources, including publicly-owned solar utilities, and promote their establishment where feasible. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Energy Commission)

d. Establish siting criteria for energy extraction, conversion, transportation, and transmission facilities to assure maximum compatibility with other uses and to protect public health and safety, environmental quality, scenic resources, agricultural land, and water resources. Environmental and economic considerations should also be included in making siting decisions. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Planning Department, Energy Commission)

(LCP) e. Oppose before the California Energy Commission all new electric power plants which have a generating capacity over 50 megawatts, proposed to be sited in Santa Cruz County's Coastal Zone, based on the California Coastal Commission's designation of the Santa Cruz County coastline as unsuitable for power plant construction, and on the findings included in, "Designation of Coastal Zone Areas Where Construction of an Electric Power Plant Would Prevent Achievement of the Objectives of the California Coastal Act of 1976" (California Coastal Commission, revised 1/1/80). (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) f. Support the State of California's designation of the tidelands and submerged lands in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties, including the Monterey Bay, as an oil and gas sanctuary. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

(LCP) g. Actively support the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's designation of the Monterey Bay as a National Marine Sanctuary with conditions prohibiting oil and gas development and radioactive waste discharge. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors)

h. Encourage and support the development of renewable energy resources and renewable energy production facilities. Assess the expanded use of wood fuel for its impact on air quality and the County's ability to maintain a sustainable level of fuel wood harvest. (Responsibility: Board of Supervisors, Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District, Planning Department)

PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES

This section addresses the development timing of public services and facilities. The policies in this section are closely related to the policies relating to special districts (Introduction, section 1.2) and the Urban Services Line policies (section 2.1). The primary focus of this section is on the public role in providing services and the utilization of a capital improvement program. Private sector roles are incorporated into the policies and programs of the Land Use section of the General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan.

Objective 7.27 Public Services and Facilities

To promote the improvement of public services and facilities in areas already committed to development, and to spread the costs of needed services and facilities equitably among present and future residents and others who benefit.

Policies

7.27.1 Focus Public Services and Facilities Within the Urban Services Line
Utilize the Urban Services Line as the basis for the following:
(a) coordinating the development of public services and facilities among the various jurisdictions and special districts, and
(b) formulating the County's Capital Improvements Program.

7.27.2 Capital Improvements Program
Maintain a Capital Improvements Program projected five years ahead to schedule and program capital expenditures, and to provide an aid to private investors and developers in determining where and when public facilities will be constructed.

7.27.3 Countywide Capital Improvements Program
Encourage and cooperate with the cities and special districts in the development of a countywide Capital Improvements Program.

Program

a. Establish a County Capital Improvements Program to project and schedule capital expenditures over a five-year period, based on the adopted population growth rate and buildout projections; and update the program annually in conjunction with the adoption of the annual County budget. Provide review by the Planning Commission for consistency with the General Plan and LCP (per State Government Code Section 65402(c)). (Responsibility: Planning Department, County Administrative Office, Public Works, Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors)

b. Continue to implement the objectives and policies of this section by maintaining the following ordinances: Growth management, Urban Services Line and Rural Services Line, and Population Growth Goal for Santa Cruz County. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors)

Also see programs in sections 2.1 and 2.2.